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BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED
RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED
URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



for the year

1966



BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED
RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED
URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

for the year

1966

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

R. S. HYND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(also Divisional Medical Officer, Dacorum Division, Hertfordshire C.C)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

K.W.M. HARBORD, B.A., M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(also Asst. County Medical Officer, Hertfordshire C.C)

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Chief Public Health Inspector :

ALAN C. HORNE, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, Smoke and Sanitary Science Certificates -R.S.H.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

E. BIRCH, M.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Certificates - R.S.H.)

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

D. P. J. BYRNE, M.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate - R.S.H.)

J. A. FISH, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Certificates - R.S.H.)

K. WHITELEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate - R.S.H.)

J. BURR, M.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Certificates - R.S.H.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Senior Public Health Inspector :

R. H. T. CHAPPELL, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I., CERT. R.S.H. and
S.I.E.J.B.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate - R.S.H.)

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Senior Public Health Inspector :

R. C. SWEET, M.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods and Sanitary Science Certificates - R.S.H.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Public Health Inspector :

R. J. BLANDAMER, M.A.P.H.I.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate - R.S.H.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF TRING

Chief Public Health Inspector :

T. WILLIAMS JONES, M.R.S.H.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate - R.S.H.)
(Also Surveyor to the District Council)

Additional Public Health Inspector :

H. D. WHITEHEAD, M.A.P.H.I.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1966

To the Mayor and Members of the
BOROUGH COUNCIL OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

and to the Chairman and Members of :

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BERKHAMSTEAD
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TRING
AND THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BERKHAMSTEAD

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eleventh annual report on the health and social conditions of your districts for the year 1966. The report is prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and is in the form similar to that of previous years. The sections dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the area, housing and the inspection and supervision of food have been written and compiled by the public health inspectors to whom I am indebted. The final section of the report is devoted to a brief survey of the personal health services in the division for which the County Council is the responsible authority.

The vital statistics were on the whole favourable. The fall in the number of births is of special significance because it is confined entirely to domiciliary births. The trend towards hospital confinements has been a national feature for many years, the trend only being halted in areas where a shortage of maternity beds, qualified staff, or both, exists. The use of the additional ward at St. Paul's Hospital, Hemel Hempstead, together with the introduction of the early discharge scheme made more beds available and clearly revealed that the trend which applies elsewhere, equally applies to the division. This change is likely to become a permanent feature of the midwifery scene and must surely hasten the day when all the maternity services will be united under the control of the hospital authorities. Inevitably, it will demand from them a broader outlook on the total maternity scene than the somewhat parochial one they now hold. Their concern will no longer be restricted to hospital patients alone, but will embrace the far wider field of the community which they have the duty to serve.

The death rate was slightly lower than in the previous year, but the number of deaths from cancer is worthy of further comment. One person in every five dies from cancer and there is, unfortunately, little hope that improved methods of treatment will make much difference in the foreseeable future. Efforts must, therefore, be concentrated on what is known about the causes of the disease, so that ways may be devised to prevent it.

Of the deaths last year from cancer in males, just over forty percentage had the primary lesion in the lungs as compared with just over ten percentage in women. It is probable that by now most people accept the medical view that there is a causal relationship between lung cancer and smoking, particularly cigarettes. It seems equally probable that there can be no decline in lung cancer while smoking is still a commonplace habit. We have the means of prevention but, unhappily, not the will nor the desire to use it.

Fortunately there is one form of cancer, cervical cancer, where the outlook is much brighter. Not only do women accept the importance of cervical cytology, but many have striven hard to get cytology clinics introduced into every part of the land. No local appeal could ever have been made for a more worthwhile cause than that which the Mayor and Bailiff of Hemel Hempstead sponsored during his year of office in 1965/66. By public subscription sufficient money was raised to buy and fully equip a mobile caravan to be used for cytology, and which was sited as an extension of the Peace Memorial Hospital Laboratory, Watford. It is a matter of regret that adequate technical staff was not immediately available to allow the full use of the very considerable facilities it provided, but no doubt in time the present staffing deficiency will be rectified. The prevention by early diagnosis of cervical cancer has taken a major step forward in this area, thanks largely to the determination of the people to provide the means.

The notifiable infectious diseases are perhaps more remarkable for the smallness in numbers than from the effect they had on the patients. The continued rise in the incidence of Infectious Hepatitis, however, is important and further comment upon this disease appears later in the report.

The completion of the new Health Centre at Tring adds to the growing number of purpose-built clinics in the division, and improves appreciably the clinic facilities for the town. Tring is fast developing and losing some of its old character as a small market town. The annual number of births is now double what it was ten years ago, and there seems little doubt that the facilities the new Health Centre provides will not remain under-used for very long.

May I thank the members of the Councils for their continued interest in all matters relating to health and the staff of the department for their invaluable support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. HYND,

Medical Officer of Health

Town Hall,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts.

June, 1967.

BOROUGH OF
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1966

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

Area	7,193 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-1966 ...	63,570
Number of inhabited houses according to Valuation List at 31st December, 1966	19,730
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966	£3,945,588
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1966/67	£16,300

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	542	496	1,038
Illegitimate	38	32	70
Total	580	528	1,108

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 17.4

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 14.8

Still Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	7	8	15
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	7	8	15

Still Birth Rate Per 1,000 of total (live and Still) births: 13.4

Deaths:

Males 246, Females 221	467
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	7.3
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil

Number of Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	10	7	17
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	10	7	17

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	15.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	15.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate	10.8
Early neo-natal mortality rate	9.1
Peri-natal mortality rate	23.2

Death Rate per 1,000 Population From:

Heart and Circulatory Disease	2.47
Cancer	1.54
Respiratory Disease (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	0.90
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.88
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.06
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excluding T.B. but including syphilis and other V.D.)	0.02

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1966 was 63,570 as compared with 63,030 at mid-1965. The natural increase of population or the excess of births over deaths was 641. The slowing down of the rate of increase of population is significant, and for the first time since 1949 the estimated increase in population was less than the natural increase. The difference of 101 persons is very small, but nevertheless it is a strange occurrence for the town for more people to leave than to enter.

Comparability Factors

The comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General for the births and deaths are 0.85 and 1.51 respectively. When the crude birth and death rates are multiplied by these factors an adjusted rate is obtained which allows comparison, not only with the rates of previous years, but equally with similar rates for other areas and with the rates for the country as a whole. Adjusted rates are always strictly comparable whereas crude rates are not.

The need for these adjustments arises from the differences in age and sex distribution in different areas. The low factor for births and the high factor for deaths both indicate the relative youthfulness of the population.

Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births a net total of 1,108 live births was registered during the year, a decrease of 131 on the previous year.

The adjusted birth rate was 14.8 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 16.7 for the previous year and 17.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births

After adjustment for transfers, 15 still births were registered during the year, an increase of one as compared with the previous year. The still birth rate was 13.4 per 1,000 (live and still) births as compared with 11.2 for 1965 and with 15.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total of deaths registered in and assigned to the Borough was 467 (246 males, 221 females), an increase of two compared with the previous year.

The adjusted death rate was 11.1 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 11.0 for the previous year. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.7.

The principal causes of death in order of numerical importance were: Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Respiratory Diseases and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System.

Of the 108 deaths from Cancer during the year the primary growth in 30 instances was situated in the lung or bronchus.

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate was 15.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 20.2 for the previous year and with 19.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths in Age Groups

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	10	7	17
1 - 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
15 - 25 "	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
25 - 35 "	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
35 - 45 "	...	...	...	...	...	14	4	18
45 - 55 "	...	...	...	...	...	32	15	47
55 - 65 "	...	...	...	...	...	40	29	69
65 - 75 "	...	...	...	...	...	66	54	120
75 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	73	106	179
All Causes						246	221	467

Causes of Death in 1966

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	1	4
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	3	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	26	4	30
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	37	55
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	1	4
16. Diabetes	1	4	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	21	35	56
18. Coronary disease, angina	60	31	91
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	5	7
20. Other heart disease	20	17	37
21. Other circulatory disease	11	12	23
22. Influenza	1	-	1
23. Pneumonia	13	12	25
24. Bronchitis	17	11	28
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .	3	-	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	3	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	16	18	34
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	5	1	6
34. All other accidents	11	6	17
35. Suicide	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES	246	221	467

Infant Mortality in 1966

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	7	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Malformations	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Asphyxia (accidental)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
Haemorrhagic Disease of the New Born ...	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Totals	11	1	-	-	12	1	4	-	-	17

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

Mains water is supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company and bacteriological samples taken from house taps in various parts of the Borough were all satisfactory.

Twenty dwellings are supplied from seven private wells or bores. Two samples were unsatisfactory, but the supplies were subsequently improved.

The water supply of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company has no more than 0.05 parts per million of fluoride present.

Particulars of dwellings and population supplied by public water mains and from wells:

	Dwellings	Persons
Total Number in Borough	19,897 *	63,570 +
Number supplied from main	19,877	63,503
Number supplied by wells	20	67

* Supplied by Borough Treasurer

+ Registrar-General's figure for mid-1966

Water Samples taken during 1966

Description of Samples	Bacteriological Exam.		
	Taken	Satis.	Unsatis.
Main Supply:			
Chlorinated	11	11	-
Private Supplies	8	6	2
Swimming Pool	18	18	-

Public Swimming Pool

The modern open-air swimming pool in Park Road is owned by the Borough Council. It has a capacity of 320,000 gallons, is filled from the main water supply, and is equipped with filters and break-point chlorination plant. Yet again, all water samples taken for bacteriological examination were reported as satisfactory.

Heating equipment was installed, so that even in cold weather water temperature is comfortable. This enabled the pool to open earlier in the year and close later, extending the season by a few weeks.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Last year's report mentioned serious nuisance in the unsewered part of Wood Lane End, where cesspools overflowed and surface water caused flooding.

New sewers for both foul and surface water have now been provided and a serious nuisance has been abated.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	10	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	236	89	18	-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	22	30	4	-
Total	268	119	22	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro- secutions were in- stituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	2	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation ...	2	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient ...	(2)	(1)	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	13(2)	3(1)	-	-	-
Total	18(4)	5(2)	-	-	-

Figures in brackets refer to building sites, and are totalled separately.

3. OUTWORKERS:

Making wearing apparel	65
Making boxes or other receptacles of paper	86
Making brushes	28
Miscellaneous... ..	1
Total	<u>180</u>

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Visits and Inspections:

General:

Houses - Public Health Acts	167
Housing Acts	107
High Street Survey	306
Rent Act	8
Improvement Grants, purchases, land charge enquiries ...	193
Infectious diseases and food poisoning	21
Overcrowding	45
Council house removals	126
Problem families and old people	15
Water Supplies	27
Keeping of Animals	22
Drainage	434
Refuse disposal	78
Moveable dwellings	102
Canal boats	4
Factories, workplaces and outworkers' premises	100
Building sites	29
Demolition sites	88
Offices, shops and railway premises - general inspections	216
- other visits	319
Swimming pool	23
Shops Act	28
Petroleum Acts	358
Pet Animals Act	3
Merchandise Marks Act	2
Pests Act - rats and mice	1,398
Noise Abatement Act	26
Dirty and verminous premises	37
Flies, insects and pigeons	310
Clean Air Act - visits to houses	711
- visits to measuring apparatus	364
Smoke observation and boiler-house visits	191
Fairgrounds	14
Revisits to dwellings under notice	526
Interviews	849
Food hygiene lectures	44
Talks to organisations	17
Attendances at court	5
Other visits	610

Food Premises:

Slaughterhouses	2
Butchers' shops	44
Fishmongers (including fried fish shops)	46
Greengrocers and fruiterers	33
Bakehouses	33
Licensed premises	13
Restaurants, dining rooms and kitchens	98
School, factory, building site and mobile canteens ...	212
Public market and foodstalls	108
Mobile food traders and delivery vehicles	19
Grocers and other food premises	219
Food inspection visits	315
Food and Drugs sampling	63
Water cress beds	2
Other visits	19

Notices Served and Complied With

	Outstanding 31.12.65	Served 1966	Completed 1966	Outstand- ing 31.12.66.
Formal	5	9	14	-
Informal	251	441	388	304
	<u>256</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>402</u>	<u>304</u>

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

Clean Air

Smoke Control Areas

The Warners End Smoke Control order came into operation on 1st October. At 31st December, there were seven areas in operation, including nearly six thousand properties and two thousand four hundred acres.

The proposed Chaulden area was surveyed, before receipt of Circular L.1/326/8 from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. This provides that occupiers who already have approved smokeless solid fuel appliances may opt for, and obtain grant on, a different type of appliance. Without a complete re-survey of the area, it was impossible to provide an accurate assessment of the expense which would be involved and the Council decided to halve the original area. The revised order has been submitted for the Minister's approval.

Measurement of Pollution

There are four stations for measuring the smoke and sulphur dioxide contents of the atmosphere in the Borough.

Station No. 1 - Odeon Cinema, Marlowes: In the town centre, surrounded by mainly modern shops and commercial and administrative buildings with oil fired central heating.

Monthly Averages of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

1966	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			Smoke /SO ₂ Ratio
	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	
	Micro-Grams per Cubic Metre						
Jan.	87	368	3	192	413	18	0.45
Feb.	32	117	3	92	202	18	0.33
Mar.	38	104	7	97	201	0	0.39
Apr.	33	73	1	76	151	0	0.43
May	21	44	7	43	104	13	0.49
Jun.	13	35	1	38	90	6	0.34
Jul.	12	29	4	45	97	26	0.26
Aug.	14	38	1	38	77	19	0.37
Sep.	30	59	5	49	98	13	0.61
Oct.	43	90	13	89	195	32	0.48
Nov.	51	152	3	117	235	0	0.44
Dec.	56	279	10	131	293	43	0.43

Station No. 2 - Old Town Hall, High Street : In a North/south valley with parkland to the West and old residential and shop property on rising ground to the East.

Monthly Averages of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

1966	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			Smoke /SO ₂ Ratio
	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	
	Micro-Grams per Cubic Metre						
Jan.	88	326	25	174	414	32	0.51
Feb.	37	125	3	98	229	19	0.38
Mar.	22	71	3	53	110	0	0.42
Apr.	28	73	1	51	172	0	0.55
May	15	37	4	25	100	0	0.60
Jun.	9	29	1	31	81	0	0.29
Jul.	8	24	2	40	82	13	0.20
Aug.	15	40	3	33	62	13	0.45
Sep.	28	54	4	40	60	7	0.70
Oct.	40	86	1	114	59	14	0.68
Nov.	49	217	7	63	144	13	0.78
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Station No. 3 - Adeyfield: In a secondary modern school in a post-war residential district.

Monthly Averages of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

1966	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			Smoke /SO ₂ Ratio
	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	
	Micro-Grams per Cubic Metre						
Jan.	85	276	14	176	449	24	0.48
Feb.	33	108	10	78	187	12	0.42
Mar.	54	109	11	106	208	30	0.51
Apr.	24	49	7	60	134	36	0.40
May	18	40	5	42	147	0	0.43
Jun.	12	26	5	42	76	12	0.29
Jul.	12	33	5	48	94	23	0.25
Aug.	15	37	5	41	88	23	0.37
Sep.	28	63	5	63	125	18	0.44
Oct.	42	99	1	82	185	35	0.51
Nov.	59	285	10	111	268	24	0.53
Dec.	70	351	3	123	378	12	0.57

Station No. 4 - Kodak: Situated on the industrial estate, which is virtually a smoke control area.

Monthly Averages of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

1966	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			Smoke SO/ ₂ Ratio
	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	Average for Month	Highest Daily Figure	Lowest Daily Figure	
	Micro-Grams per Cubic Metre						
Jan.	90	300	13	230	473	37	0.39
Feb.	32	101	4	114	410	43	0.28
Mar.	34	90	4	111	271	31	0.31
Apr.	22	65	4	83	235	0	0.27
May	25	104	10	62	152	16	0.40
Jun.	19	48	5	80	181	16	0.24
Jul.	13	41	3	105	275	49	0.12
Aug.	18	42	4	67	164	28	0.26
Sep.	33	70	11	65	119	30	0.51
Oct.	44	116	2	129	299	21	0.34
Nov.	47	369	3	174	535	40	0.27
Dec.	48	416	4	140	412	40	0.34

HOUSING

Housing Act 1957

Unfit Houses

145 houses were made fit as a result of notices, being served, 22 demolition or closing orders were made and one undertaking accepted. 20 houses were demolished or closed.

The Housing Manager remarks :-

"The number of applicants on the 'common housing list' as at the 31st December, 1966 was 2,011. Of this number, 1,291 were without separate accommodation (in rooms etc.), and 720 were already occupying separate accommodation but were requiring better accommodation for various reasons (e.g. over-crowding, poor amenities, etc.). In addition to this, 133 applicants were on the approved list awaiting housing, already having been selected through the Council's 'points scheme'. Of this number, 105 were sharing accommodation, and 28 were already occupying their own separate accommodation; 10 applicants were occupying unfit property and were awaiting rehousing.

During the year 108 houses and 90 new garages were built by the Borough Council. These, together with chance vacancies that occurred, made it possible for the Borough Council to house 124 people from the waiting list, and transfer 115 tenants to more suitable accommodation. In addition, a further 7 tenants were housed from unfit properties. The Commission for the New Towns housed 298 applicants from the 'common housing list' and were also able to house 3 applicants occupying unfit properties.

The average waiting time for applicants has lengthened during the past year, and applicants, in rooms, with no children, are waiting approximately three years before being housed. The position should improve when houses from the new building schemes become available."

During the year, the following houses were :-

(a) Commenced only :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	24	1 bedroom flats.	188

(b) Completed :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	146	Houses, flats and bungalows.	186

The position in regard to HOUSING SCHEMES at 31.12.66 was as follows:-

(a) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) completed since 1.1.45 up to 31.12.66

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Crabtree Lane	102	Permanent Brick - 2 and 3-bedroom houses & 1 & 2-bedroom flats
Crabtree Lane	31	Temporary Prefabricated - 2-bedroom
Wood Crescent	19	Temporary Prefabricated - 2-bedroom
Adeyfield	102	Permanent Prefabricated - 3-bedroom
Adeyfield	178	Permanent Brick - 2 and 3-bedroom houses, 1 & 2-bedroom flats and Old People's bungalows
Belswains Estate	186	Permanent Brick - 2, 3 and 4-bedroom houses and bungalows
Beechfield Estate ...	188	Permanent Brick - 2 and 3-bedroom houses and bungalows
Oakdene Road	6	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Fairway	40	Permanent Brick - 2 and 3-bedroom
Stonelea Road	14	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Vauxhall Road	14	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Seaton Road	1	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Deaconsfield Road ...	1	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Oliver Road	2	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
Warners End	58	Permanent Brick - 2 and 3-bedroom
Highfield Estate	1,007	Permanent Brick - 1,2,3 and 4-bedroom houses, flats, maisonettes, Old People's bungalows and shops
Whealers Lane	15	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom, parlour
Wood Crescent East ..	15	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom, non-parlour
Wood Crescent West ..	15	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom, non-parlour
Cupid Green Depot ..	2	Permanent Brick - 3-bedroom
"Cranford"	36	Permanent Brick - 31 Old Peoples' flatlets, 4 Old People's bungalows and 2-bedroom warden's flat.

(b) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) projected, i.e. schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.66

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Highfield Scheme 14	376	Various

I am indebted to the Commission for the New Towns (Hemel Hempstead Executive) for the following information regarding the progress of the New Town :-

1. Housing

In 1966 56 new dwellings were completed, comprising :

1 bedroom	28
2 bedrooms	20
3 bedrooms	2
4 bedrooms and over	6

The 56 dwellings were distributed as follows :

The Alleys	34
Works Department (Caretaker's flat)	1
Christchurch Road	6
Warners End	15

The total dwellings constructed up to December 1966, (including houses built for sale)	11,402
Estimated new town population	38,700

The number of dwellings under construction at the end of 1966 was 115, allocated as follows:

The Alleys	34
Leverstock Green N.C.	8
Grove Hill Precint "A"	73

2. Industry

Total number of factories completed	65
Factories completed during 1966	4
New factories under construction	1
Extensions to existing factories under construction	4
Estimated employment in industrial area	11,342

3. Service Industry

No. of firms in operation	71
Premises under construction	1

4. Offices

Total office floor space completed to end of December, 1966	340,000 sq.ft.
---	----------------

5. Shops

No new shops were completed during the year. Total completed to date :

Town Centre	...	...	169
Elsewhere	...	...	124

6. Schools

There are 36 new town schools, providing a total of 14,050 places. The Grove Hill Grammar School is now under construction and will provide a further 720 places on completion.

7. Grove Hill Neighbourhood

Construction work was started in October 1966 on the 590 dwellings, comprising two and three-storey houses, flats and maisonettes, forming the initial stage of development at Grove Hill. The first dwellings are expected to be ready for occupation in May, 1967.

8. Leverstock Green Neighbourhood Centre

Redevelopment of the village neighbourhood centre commenced in July, 1966 and will provide 7 shops with 8 maisonettes over and 16 lock-up garages. The shops are scheduled for completion in August, 1967 followed by the remainder of the accommodation by the end of the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES

Register

There are many offices connected with factories or owned by the Crown or local authorities situated within the Borough, and these are the responsibility of the Factory Inspectorate. Registered with the Council are :-

155	Offices
348	Retail Shops
9	Wholesale premises
39	Catering establishments and canteens
2	Fuel storage depots
<hr/>	
553	
<hr/>	

They employ 5,376 persons, 2,504 males and 2,872 females. At the end of 1966, general inspections had been carried out at 449.

Contraventions

There were no contraventions of particular interest. The majority concerned minor items and were remedied following informal action.

Accidents

Twenty accidents were reported. Ten were due to slipping or tripping, and two others to striking against projections when bending to pick up objects. No accidents were due to the use of cutting or mixing machines.

Prosecutions

No proceedings were instituted.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Complaints

121 complaints were received concerning alleged unsound, tainted or mouldy food and foreign bodies in foodstuffs.

Retail Food Premises

The number of retail food premises at 31st December, 1966 was :-

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Fishmongers - Wet, and dried fish only	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wet, dried and fried fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Grocers and greengrocers (mixed trade - not included in above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Flour confectionery (bread and cakes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Sugar confectionery (sweets)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Licensed premises (not including Off-Licences)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Licensed premises serving main meals (including above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Registered for sausage making, food preservation etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Registered for sale of ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131

Number of premises concerned in above . 257

Food Hygiene Regulations

Of the 257 premises which are subject to the Regulations, 22 have not yet been provided with a separate wash-hand basin, and 4 are still without an equipment sink. The majority of premises are well constructed and well equipped.

Food Hygiene Education

The ten-lecture courses continued at the Dacorum College of Further Education and followed the syllabus of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. Four courses were completed, with an attendance of 54.

So far a total of 233 students have attended, from hospitals, manufacturers, retailers, restaurants and canteens. 149 sat the examination and 135 were successful.

Where food handlers may not be suitable for attendance at a full course, one or two talks are given, with the aid of the department's coloured slides. These can be arranged at the food premises concerned, and it is felt well worth the effort even though only one or two staff are employed there.

There are still many firms in the borough, both large and small, who have not sent even one representative to a course. The County Council realise the need for hygiene training of school canteen staffs, and the majority of the supervisors and cooks have attended.

Samples Taken

Bacteriological Examination

Milk

Description	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised ...	3	3	-

Slaughterhouses

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough, attached to a butcher's shop. This slaughterhouse complies with the statutory standards and is suitable for a limited amount of slaughtering, excluding cattle. No slaughtering was carried out during 1966.

Foodstuffs found to be Unfit for Human Consumption

Unfit foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's Refuse Tip. The main items of unfit food dealt with were :-

Carcase meat and offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,777 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	180 lbs.
23 Turkeys and Ducks	...	...	...	...	...	...	304 lbs.
Tins, jars and packets	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,990
Frozen food packets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,846

Food and Drugs Sampling

A total of 129 samples was submitted to the Public Analyst, of which 22 were drugs. Several of the samples were collected following complaints from members of the public. The main groups of foodstuffs samples were cheese and cheese spreads (11), soft drinks and drink powders (21), cough, cold and influenza mixtures (21), and jams and marmalades (16).

Prosecutions

(i) In the last report it was stated that proceedings were to be instituted in respect of a bakehouse. There were seventeen charges relating to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, one under the Council's Clean Food Byelaws and three alleging foreign matter in foodstuffs - rodent excreta in bread: blue wrapping paper in bread: metal nail in fruit cake. Pleas of "guilty" were entered. Penalties totalled £244 plus £12. 12s. 0d., costs.

(ii) A filthy milk bottle was delivered to a customer and the firm pleaded "guilty". Penalty £15 with £5 5s. 0d., costs.

(iii) Minced meat was delivered to a school in a dirty metal tray. A plea of "guilty" was entered. Penalty £10.

(iv) Mouldy yoghurt was sold to a customer. On visiting the shop, the inspector found other mouldy cartons. A plea of "not guilty" was later changed to one of "guilty". Penalty £15 plus costs of £21. 15s. 0d.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table showing cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year :-

Disease	Total cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	9	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	1	Nil	Nil
Measles	189	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	3	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	2	Nil	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis ...	74	2	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year	-	-	5	1	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	-	24	-	-	-
2 - 3 years	-	-	20	-	-	1
3 - 4 years	2	-	25	-	-	1
4 - 5 years	2	-	35	-	-	2
5 -10 years	5	1	71	-	-	35
10 -15 years	-	-	9	-	-	15
15 -25 years	-	-	-	-	-	9
25 -45 years	-	-	-	1	2	5
45 -65 years	-	-	-	-	-	6
65 years and over ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	1	-	-
Total cases notified	9	1	189	3	2	74

TUBERCULOSIS

The following Tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year :-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of cases on the Register at 1st January, 1966	232	190	7	22
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	3	8	2	2
Number of cases added to the Register other than by notification (i.e. transfers-in, etc.) ...	15	8	-	-
Number of cases removed from Register during the year	68	54	3	2
Total number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year .	182	152	6	22

Age (years)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pul-monary		Pulmonary		Non-Pul-monary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -10 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -15 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -20 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -25 " ...	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -35 " ...	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 -45 " ...	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
45 -55 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -65 " ...	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	-
65 and upwards .	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals ...	3	8	2	2	3	1	-	-

RURAL DISTRICT OF
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1966

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

The Rural District comprises an area of 20,231 acres and contains the parishes of Kings Langley, Chipperfield, Flaunden, Bovingdon, Great Gaddesden, Flamstead and Markyate.

Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1966	...	...	...	14,100
Number of inhabited houses according to Valuation List at				
31st December, 1966	...	...	...	4,600
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	£545,803
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1966/67	...	...	...	£2,185

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	113	84	197
Illegitimate	9	9	18
Total	122	93	215

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 15.2
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 16.0

Still Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	3	1	4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still births): 18.2

Deaths:

Males 55, Females 57	...	...	112
Crude Death Rate Per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	8.0
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	7.9
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil

Number of Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	4	1	5

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	23.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	20.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .	55.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	18.6
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	18.6
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	36.5

Death Rate per 1,000 Population From:

Heart and circulatory diseases	2.84
Cancer	1.42
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	1.13
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System)	0.71
Infective and Parasitic diseases, excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphilis and other V.D.	0.07

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1966 was 14,100 as compared with 13,950 for mid-1965. The natural increase of the population, i.e. the excess of births over deaths, was 103 compared with 100 for the previous year.

Comparability Factors

Comparability factors in respect of births and deaths have been supplied by the Registrar-General which for your district are 1.05 and 1.03 respectively. The approximation of both factors to unity indicates that your population closely approaches by age and sex distribution the standard population of the country.

Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births a net total of 215 live births was registered during the year, a decrease of 25 as compared with the previous year.

The adjusted birth rate was 16.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 18.1 for the previous year and 17.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births

After adjustment for transfers, four still births were registered during the year, the same as for the previous year. The still birth rate was 18.2 per 1,000 (live and still) births as compared with 16.4 for the previous year and with 15.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the Rural District was 112, a decrease of 28 as compared with the previous year.

The adjusted death rate was 7.9 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 10.3 for the previous year. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.7 per 1,000 of the population.

The principal causes of death in order of numerical importance were: Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Vascular lesions of the Nervous System and Respiratory Diseases.

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate was 23.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 25.0 for the previous year and with 19.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths in Age Groups

							<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
1 - 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
5 - 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
25 - 35 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
35 - 45 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
45 - 55 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
55 - 65 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
65 - 75 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	11	27
75 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	35	56
All Causes							55	57	112

Causes of Death in 1966

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	-	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	5	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5	11	16
18. Coronary disease, angina	8	13	21
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	6	7	13
21. Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	1	1	2
24. Bronchitis	5	1	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	4	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	-	-	-
35. Suicide	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES	55	57	112

Infant Mortality in 1966

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
Respiratory syndrome of the newborn ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Prematurity ...	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Rhesus Incompatibility ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTALS ...	4	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	5

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

After the low level of underground water in 1965, the year showed some improvement, but rivers and wells are still below previous conditions. Large quantities of underground water are extracted from the district and more water is being removed from the chalk than enters it from natural sources.

Main water supplies were arranged in respect of 9 premises in Rucklers Lane, Kings Langley. It was not possible to provide public supplies to the small community at Noke Mill, but the urgency for that scheme was removed by the return of underground water in good quantity. 51 premises had private supplies, of which one was rain water and one carted supply. One house in Chipperfield still had supplies from a stand-pipe.

All Main water is of excellent bacterial quality and no restrictions were imposed during the year for drinking water purposes. Main water is supplied to the district by the following authorities:-

Southern Parishes, Potten End and Piccotts End -
Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

Northern Parishes - Luton Water Company.

Water samples taken during 1966:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public	5	-	5
Private	12	1	13

Rainfall

The rainfall for 1966 was 31.58 inches (1965 29.83 inches). The average is 28.6 inches. The autumn was wet.

Standpipe Supplies

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from the public water mains are shown in the following table. Caravans have been excluded:-

Parish	Population	(a) Direct to Houses		(b) By Means of Standpipes	
		Houses	Pop'n	Houses	Pop'n
Bovingdon	3,185	933	3,185	Nil	Nil
Flamstead	1,170	365	1,170	Nil	Nil
Flaunden	235	60	235	Nil	Nil
Great Gaddesden	1,045	383	1,045	Nil	Nil
Kings Langley .	4,645	1,520	4,645	Nil	Nil
Chipperfield ..	1,680	544	1,679	1	1
Markyate	2,440	785	2,440	Nil	Nil

All figures are estimated

Swimming Baths

There is a swimming bath, complete with chlorination plant, at Bovingdon County Primary School. All samples of the water proved satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Cesspool Emptying

The number of loads removed during the year was 5,447, (compared with 4,810 the previous year and 3,727 in 1964). The service was under pressure, particularly in July and August, when vehicles had also to be used for sewer maintenance purposes. It was possible to postpone certain maintenance operations, and for the workshop staff to keep old vehicles on the road.

At the end of the year the position was eased by the connection of a few houses in Chipperfield Road, Kings Langley, to the new sewer.

E.C. Collection

There are still approximately 100 premises using this method of disposal. 20 Premises are located in the parish of Great Gaddesden, but most of the remainder will be in sewered areas in 1967.

However, there are still 6 premises in the centre of Bovingdon with pail closets and 9 Council houses at Bryfield Cottages, Bovingdon.

Refuse Disposal

All the refuse collected in the rural district continues to be dumped at Moor Mill Radlett, in a commercial tip used by most authorities in this part of the county. No difficulties have occurred in this service.

Refuse Collection

This is carried out regularly throughout the district at weekly intervals. The workmen are employed on a bonus system.

There was a shortage of labour until midsummer, but an improvement in the latter part of the year.

Derelict Vehicles

Each month all public car parks are visited, now over 20 in number. Each untaxed vehicle is labelled and if not removed or re-taxed within a week is towed away.

	<u>Vehicles Labelled</u>	<u>Vehicles Towed into depot</u>
1965	54	11
1966	53	17

Of the 17 vehicles towed into the depot, only one was reclaimed.

Legal proceedings were taken against one car owner who dumped a car on the verge of the highway.

Itinerants

This problem has again been under consideration. Legal proceedings were taken against one farmer for allowing caravans to remain on his land without licence. On two occasions Council-owned land being laid out for housing purposes was invaded.

The Council searched for a possible site to house a small number of itinerants, hoping to be able to establish a site to help in the national problem of roadside dwellers. Although a site which satisfied most criteria was located, the matter was still not finalised at the end of the year.

The nature of the itinerants varies so much that a solution to the whole problem is difficult. Apart from the gipsies and didicais, there has been an invasion of Irish itinerants, many criminally disposed. Although most trouble has hitherto been experienced in the northern parishes the year under review saw more activity in the southern parishes - particularly Bovingdon.

PEST CONTROL

The services of the department were fully utilised. There were 124 casual complaints of rat and mice infestation (compared with 88 in the previous year). The Council had contracts at 41 premises (mainly farms) for monthly inspection and treatment to the value of £314.

There was a definite increase in the amount of rat infestation, due it is thought to modern agricultural methods on the farms.

There were only a few demands for wasp nest destruction. Treatment and advice was given in respect of squirrels, flies, moles, rabbits, wood-worm, carpet beetles and other pests.

New insecticides to replace the potentially dangerous DDT and similar compounds are coming on the market, and certain insecticides are now banned by regulation.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the

Factories Act, 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	56	17	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).....	15	9	3	-
TOTAL	72	26	4	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ..	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-

3. Outworkers Nil

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

Visits and Inspections (other than Food Premises):

GENERAL:

Houses, Public Health and Housing Acts	175
Infectious diseases	1
Water Supply	61
Drainage	82
Caravan Sites	130
Public Cleansing	121
Schools	25
Miscellaneous	121
Interviews	162
Petroleum	49
Pet shops and animal boarding establishments	10

Notices Served for Defects:

Increasingly the department avoids serving formal notices where informal action is sufficient, but there are obviously occasions and circumstances when formal notices must be served, and on six occasions during the year, statutory notices were used.

Premises subject to formal and informal notices numbered 52.

Boarding Kennels and Pet Shops:

Six boarding kennels and two pet shops were inspected and registered. No difficulty was encountered.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1928 and 1936

42 premises were licensed for this purpose (a decrease of 7 in the year). The change from petrol to diesel fuel was responsible for most of the decrease. Opportunity was taken during the year to completely revise the register and inspect all the installations.

Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act

121 visits were made to register premises. In old buildings compliance with the regulations is likely to take a long time.

Notices were served on two public houses in regard to dangerous trap door access to cellars.

Nuisance from Poultry Manure Distribution

It was possible to come to an agreement with the largest egg-producing establishment in the district regarding this vexed question. The co-operation of the firm was sought and obtained, and it is pleasant to record that no action was necessary during the year.

HOUSING

Rather more housing work was done in the year under review than in the previous year. Ten undertakings not to re-occupy before reconditioning were accepted and 8 premises were made subject to Closing Orders.

There are still a number of country cottages dotted about the district in rather bad condition and without modern facilities. Almost invariably these are occupied by old people who are content not to complain, and formal action with respect to such properties is difficult.

During the year 7 standard and 3 discretionary grants were paid for the improvement of old property. No attempt was made to use the legislation designed to compel owners to modernise (as distinct from repair) old properties.

During the year the following houses were:-

(a) Commenced only:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	28	2-bedroom flats (20) 1-bedroom flats (8)	100

(b) Completed:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	52	3-bedroom houses (16) 2-bedroom houses (36)	92

The position in regard to HOUSING SCHEMES at 31.12.66 was as follows:

(a) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) completed since 1.1.45 up to 31.12.66.

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Markyate:		
Buckwood Road	45	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour
Buckwood Road	23	Arcon, 2-bedroom, Temporary (11), 1-bedroom bungalows (12)
Cowper Road	61	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats
Home Farm Estate	118	Brick, 2 and 3-bedroom houses; 1-bedroom flats.

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Kings Langley:		
Rucklers Lane ...	36	Uni-Seco, 2-bedroom, temporary (24) Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour (12)
Barnes Estate ...	45	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, and 2-bedroom
Bury Estate ...	30	Unity, 2-bedroom bungalows
Coniston Road ...	6	Brick, 2-bedroom, non-parlour
Wesley Estate ...	42	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour; 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats.
Edmund Estate ...	138	3-bedroom houses, 1 and 2-bedroom flats and bungalows
Waterside ...	23	3-bedroom houses, (3) 1-bedroom flats (20)
Flamstead	56	Brick, 2 and 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour; Airey and Timber, 3-bedroom, parlour (10)
Chipperfield:		
Nunfield	36	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats
Croft Estate ...	44	2 and 3-bedroom
Croft End Road .	9	3-bedroom
Bovingdon:		
Hyde Meadows ...	129	Brick, Airey and Unity; 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour
Old Dean	36	2-bedroom flats
Bovingdon ...	42	3-bedroom houses and 1-bedroom flats
Gaddesden Row:		
Jockey End ...	12	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour
Great Gaddesden ...	32	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour
Flaunden	6	3-bedroom, non-parlour

(b) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) commenced but not completed at 31.12.66.

Site	Number of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Flamstead:				
Singlets Lane ...	8	1-bedroom flats	8	-

(c) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) projected, i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.66

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Bovingdon:		
Vicarage Lane ...	19	3-bedroom houses (14) 1-bedroom bungalows (5)
Chipperfield:		
Croft Lane ...	12	3-bedroom houses (4) 1-bedroom flats (8)
Kings Langley:		
Rucklers Lane ...	16	3-bedroom houses (8) 2-bedroom flats (8)
Flamstead	14	3-bedroom houses (6) 1-bedroom flats (8)

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Gaddesden Row	8	3-bedroom houses (4); 1-bedroom flats (4)
Markyate	17	3-bedroom houses (12); 1-bedroom bungalows (5)

Number of applicants for Council houses at the end of 1966 ... 124

Caravans

There were 95 caravans known to be occupied (whole time or partly). This is an increase of 6 on the previous year. Not all these caravans were subject to licence provisions. The main caravan sites (Stagg Farm, Scatterdells Lane, and Highcroft, Bovingdon) gave no trouble during the year.

The control of the remainder presents some difficulty, both because of the exemption of caravans used by members of the family, and because of the growing number of trailer caravans parked in gardens etc.

Every caravan site is inspected once a year, and the larger sites more frequently, and little trouble has been experienced.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

It is pleasant to record a continued improvement in the standard of hygiene in food premises generally throughout the district. This has come about by the combined effort of education (Food Hygiene Courses at the Dacorum College), encouragement and advice freely given, and in a few premises where resistance has been met, a firm practical approach to the problem involved. It is also pleasant to record that no prosecutions were necessary.

It was necessary to invite to the Committee representatives of a large concern with many branches throughout the country. This concern eventually closed the branch, presumably as uneconomic.

It has been possible to inspect all premises at least twice a year, and some more frequently. It can be claimed that there has been continued improvement also in the relations between the department and traders, which not only has made the inspection more agreeable, but also has enabled the experience of the department to be made available. Continuous records are kept of all inspections and matters arising and this simple practice enables a firm grip to be kept on the whole field of operations.

Unfortunately, the standard of hygiene at two large establishments was the subject of serious consideration by the Council. No legal proceedings were taken and there has been great improvement in the conditions since.

Number of Food Premises:

Private schools serving meals	3
Council & Church schools serving meals ...	10
Hotels etc.,	3
Public Houses with restaurants	2
Public Houses other than above	31
Transport cafes	5
Butchers	9
Bakehouses	4
Fish shops (1 wet, 2 dry, 1 wet & dry) ...	4

Number of Food Premises: (Continued)

Industrial canteens	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops selling food	...	...	...	...	...	51
Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream (included in above)	...	...	...	...	...	35
Club premises, halls etc.	...	...	...	...	...	7
Residential homes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total Premises	...	...	...	...	...	133

Number of Inspections in 1966 (excluding slaughterhouse visits):

Bovingdon and Flaunden	.....	...	...	...	...	55
Chipperfield	...	...	...	...	...	23
Kings Langley	...	...	...	...	...	94
Great Gaddesden	...	...	...	...	...	28
Markyate	...	...	...	...	...	66
Flamstead	...	...	...	...	...	34
Total Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	300

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960:

No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 (wash hand basins)	...	133
No. of premises to which Regulation 19 applies (facilities for washing food and equipment)	...	109
No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	...	108

Unsound Food:

From time to time articles of food are brought to the office which are not quite as they should be. The question of whether proceedings should be taken against the seller is a matter for the Council. Some purchasers of foodstuffs are known to exaggerate complaints and certainly each case requires most careful investigation. It is doubtful if any food shop would willingly sell bad food, but carelessness does occur. Food of poor quality is a different matter, and usually occurs because of failure to rotate stocks properly.

Public Houses:

Progress in providing adequate and satisfactory sanitary accommodation at public houses was slow during the year. Improvements were carried out at the Halfway House, Bovingdon, Crown and Sceptre, Bridens Camp, and Three Blackbirds, Flamstead. Work was commenced at the Saracens Head, Kings Langley.

Food in Public Houses:

There has been a definite extension of the amount of food sold in public houses. This reflects a change in habits of the population. Whilst this change has been opposed by the Brewers in the past, there has been a distinct change in their attitude during the year and it is now realised that the country "pub" of the future will not only have to cater for the "locals" and the motorist, but will also be a place for the family to go and eat under pleasant conditions. In the rural district there are some wonderful old public houses, many of which in their present condition belong to an age that has passed.

Slaughterhouses:

There is one slaughterhouse in the district. Slaughtering takes place weekly, chiefly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Inspection of meat is carried out on Mondays and Thursdays, but during the year it frequently became necessary to inspect on Fridays as well. The standard of inspection does not reach that possible in large abattoirs with a specialised staff in constant attendance, but the best possible service is maintained.

Number of Animals Slaughtered

Years	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
1966	222	-	975	773	3,360
1965	125	1	1,054	758	3,294
1964	236	7	997	786	2,420
1963	210	13	359	863	1,618
1962	45	6	2	340	655
1961	1	-	-	-	621
1960	1	-	-	1	530
1959	15	-	2	57	696
1958	94	-	1	140	686
1957	74	18	393	341	454
1956	39	37	661	193	386
1955	3	14	393	217	51
1954	5	1	-	11	13

Because of the closing down of a slaughterhouse at Tring, it is anticipated that the throughput of animals will increase in 1967. The comparatively high incidence of disease in cattle, shown on the following table is mainly due to fluke infection of livers.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	222	-	975	773	3,360	-
Number inspected.	219	-	975	773	3,351	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	7	-	6	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .	58	-	-	9	82	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	26.5	-	0.7	1.2	2.6	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .	-	-	-	-	15	-
Percentage of Number inspected affected by tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.4	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

Poultry Inspection:

Although a large amount of poultry is produced in the district (both broilers and birds which have passed egg laying) no large scale slaughtering is carried out in the area, the birds all being dispatched outside the district.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

Table showing cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year:

Disease	Total cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Whooping cough	1	Nil	Nil
Measles	53	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	33	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	1	1	Nil
Food Poisoning	7	Nil	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	1	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups

Age Groups	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Acute Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year	-	1	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	5	-	-	-	-
2 - 3 years	-	6	-	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	-	11	-	-	-	-
4 - 5 years	-	14	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 years	1	15	5	-	1	1
10 - 15 years	-	-	28	-	1	-
15 - 25 years	-	-	-	-	2	-
25 - 45 years	-	1	-	-	1	-
45 - 65 years	-	-	-	-	2	-
65 years and over ...	-	-	-	1	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of cases on the Register at 1st January, 1966	34	27	5	10
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year ...	-	-	-	-
Number of cases added to the Register other than by notification (i.e. transfers in etc.) ...	-	-	-	-
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	5	5	-	1
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year ...	29	22	5	9

New Cases Nil

Deaths Nil

U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F

B E R K H A M S T E D

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1966

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

Area	1,982 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1966 ...	15,160.
Number of inhabited houses according to Valuation List at 31st December, 1966	4,622
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966	£767,978
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1966-67	£3,047

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	112	111	223
Illegitimate	7	5	12
Total ...	119	116	235

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 15.5

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 16.0

Still Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total ...	4	-	4

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births: 16.7

Deaths:

Males 79, Females 64	143
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	9.4
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	10.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil

Number of Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total ...	3	1	4

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.5
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.1

Death Rate per 1,000 Population From:

Heart and Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.43
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.85
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of Respiratory System)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.12
Vascular lesions of the Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.32

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar-General's estimation of the population at mid-1966 was 15,160 as compared with 14,970 at mid-1965. The natural increase of the population, i.e. excess of births over deaths was 92.

Comparability Factors

Comparability factors for births and deaths as supplied by the Registrar-General were 1.03 and 1.07 respectively. The approximation of both factors to unity indicates that the population of your district closely approaches by age and sex distribution the standard population of the country.

Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births a net total of 235 live births was registered during the year, a decrease of six on the previous year.

The adjusted birth rate was 16.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 16.6 for the previous year and with 17.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births

After adjustment for transfers, four still-births were registered during the year. The still-birth rate was 16.7 per 1,000 (live and still) births as compared with 20.3 in the previous year and 15.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the district was 143 (79 males, 64 females), a decrease of five on the total for the year 1965.

The adjusted death rate was 10.1 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 10.5 for the previous year and with 11.7 for England and Wales.

The principal causes of death in order of numeral importance were: Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Vascular lesions of the Nervous System and Respiratory Diseases.

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate was 17.0 per 1,000 live births as compared with 16.2 for the previous year and with 19.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths in Age Groups

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	3	1	4
1 - 5 years	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	1	-	1
25 - 35 years	2	2	4
35 - 45 years	1	3	4
45 - 55 years	4	4	8
55 - 65 years	21	6	27
65 - 75 years	21	15	36
75 years and over	26	33	59
All Causes	79	64	143

Causes of Death in 1966

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	2	10
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	3	8
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	11	20
18. Coronary disease, angina	21	4	25
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	6	5	11
21. Other circulatory disease	4	6	10
22. Influenza	1	-	1
23. Pneumonia	3	5	8
24. Bronchitis	5	3	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .	7	9	16
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1	1
34. All other accidents	2	4	6
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES	79	64	143

Infant Mortality in 1966

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital Malformations..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTALS	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	4

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

Town Supply

The Statutory Undertakers for the whole of the Urban District are the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

Water is obtained from three boreholes sunk into the chalk, at Berkhamsted Pumping Station where all water is chlorinated before passing to supply. There are two covered reservoirs, one containing 370,000 gallons and the other 300,000 gallons. The average daily water consumption was approximately 57 gallons per head.

The water is hard, therefore no action has been necessary for plumbosolvent contamination. The fluoride content of the water does not exceed 0.05 p.p.m. (F). The Council consider that no further action should be taken in relation to the use of fluoride until further experience has been gained, and have written to Hertfordshire County Council accordingly.

In addition to samples taken by the Water Company, samples are taken from various premises within the district and are submitted monthly by this Council for bacteriological examination.

Private Supplies

A laundry, one factory and the Council's swimming bath obtain water from boreholes.

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains is shown in the following table:-

Population (estimated)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
15,999	4,819	15,999	-	-

Water Samples Taken During 1966

Description of Samples	Number of Samples					
	Bacteriological Exam.			Chemical Exam.		
	Taken	Satis.	Unsatis.	Taken	Satis.	Unsatis
Main Supply:						
Chlorinated	13	11	2	-	-	-
Private Supplies:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swimming Baths:	19	17	2	-	-	-
Main Water:	Total Hardness 240 p.p.m.					

Swimming Baths

There are four swimming baths within the district.

1. Town Bath. An open-air swimming bath constructed in 1925, enlarged and improved in 1965, owned and managed by the Council.

The capacity is 147,000 gallons and the water is obtained from an 80 ft. borehole. Purification is effected by continuous filtration through sand pressure filters, the turnover period being six hours. Marginal chlorination is used. Proprietary chemicals are added for pH adjustment and aeration is carried out after chlorination.

Five samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

2. Ashlyns School. A covered swimming bath, constructed 1934, owned and managed by the Hertfordshire County Council and used by the staff and pupils of the School.

Water is obtained from the main supply and is changed six times every year. The capacity is 40,000 gallons.

Purification is effected by continuous filtration through sand pressure filters, the turnover period being four hours. Marginal chlorination is carried out and proprietary chemicals added for pH adjustment. The water is heated by a calorifier.

Samples are taken by the County Council.

3. Berkhamsted School. A covered swimming bath, constructed in 1890, owned and managed by the School and used by its staff and pupils.

Water is obtained from the main supply and is changed annually during the August holidays. The capacity is 40,000 gallons.

Purification is effected by continuous filtration through pressure sand filters, the turnover period being ten hours. Marginal chlorination is carried out and proprietary chemicals are added for pH adjustment. Nine samples were taken and eight were satisfactory.

4. Berkhamsted School for Girls. An open air swimming bath, constructed in 1935, owned and managed by the School and used by its staff and pupils.

Water is obtained from the main supply and is changed annually prior to the Summer season. The capacity is 80,000 gallons.

Purification is effected by continuous filtration through pressure sand filters, the turnover period being six hours. Marginal chlorination is carried out by a chlorinator using chlorine gas. Proprietary chemicals and soda are added for pH adjustment.

Three samples were taken and two were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Purification of sewage is carried out at the Council's sewage disposal works. The effluent is discharged into the Grand Union Canal. Eleven samples of effluent were taken during the year, and eight complied with the recommended standards.

The majority of premises in the district are connected to sewers, but there are approximately 110 cesspools and septic tanks which are emptied when necessary by a neighbouring authority. The cost of emptying is recovered from the owners of the properties.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

Refuse Collection

Refuse is collected from all premises weekly. A charge is levied on trade premises where more than one bin load per week is collected. Accumulations and lumber are collected from private dwelling houses for a set charge of ten shillings.

The Incentive Bonus Scheme has been successfully continued and a regular weekly collection has been maintained.

The pilot scheme for paper sack refuse containers has continued to receive a favourable reception from householders now that a larger capacity sack ($3\frac{1}{4}$ cu.ft.) is used. The Council has resolved that all new Council houses shall be provided with paper sacks.

A third round was introduced in May, 1966. Two Dennis Paxit II and one Shelvoke and Drewry TZ type Packamatic vehicles are used for collection, each with a crew of one loader/driver and three men. A Karrier Dual Tip vehicle is kept in reserve.

Refuse Disposal

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping. Two men are employed and a Bristol Duplex Tractor is used to assist compaction and control. A replacement tractor was purchased in April, 1966.

In order to discourage indiscriminate dumping within the District, free tipping facilities are available.

In co-operation with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, arrangements have been made at the tip for the disposal of a small quantity of radio-active waste, but none has been received during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority ...	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	51	119	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	6	15	4	-
TOTAL ...	58	134	4	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences - unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	1	-

3. OUTWORKERS: Nil

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Visits and Inspections

General:

Houses - Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Improvement Area Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Water supplies and sampling visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Drainage and sewerage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	207
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Factories, workplaces and building sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Offices and Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Offices and Shops Act, Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	179
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Pests Act - rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Wasps' nests destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Refuse collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
Paper sack enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Swimming baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Glis-Glis infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Noise Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cinema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
River pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Attendances at Court	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houseboats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Food Premises

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Confectioners (flour)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Confectioners (sugar)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fishmongers (wet fish)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Fishfriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Multiple food shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Nursing homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Registered ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ice cream manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Registered preserved food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
School kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Watercress beds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Mobile food vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Food inspection visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43

Notices Served and Complied With

	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>31.12.65</u>	<u>Served</u> <u>1966</u>	<u>Completed</u> <u>1966</u>	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>31.12.66</u>
Informal ...	10	53	55	8
Formal ...	-	1	-	1

Nuisances Abated: Defects and Contraventions Remedied

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

A Pest Destruction Officer is employed whose services are shared with Berkhamsted R.D.C.

During the year 172 infestations of brown rats, 6 of house mice, and 4 of glis-glises were dealt with.

For the majority of infestations, Warfarin with an oatmeal base was used for poisoning. Raticate was also used successfully and Alphakil against mice.

Charges are not made for treatment at dwelling-houses.

Sewer treatment was carried out by a private contractor, when 25 per cent fluoracetamide (1081) was used. 100 manholes were treated and 16 bodies recovered.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two shops only are registered and statutory conditions are observed.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The following table shows the number of premises registered with the Council and the number of persons employed at 31st December, 1966:-

Class of Workplace	Number of Registered Premises	Number of persons employed	
		Males	Females
Offices	68	465	747
Retail Shops	121	186	420
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	3	12	-
Catering Establishments open to the public	13	23	44
Canteens	4	-	10
Fuel Storage Depots	1	7	-

This table does not include premises in factories, Crown premises and those owned by local authorities, all of which are registered by H.M. Inspector of Factories; neither does it include 100 shops and offices which are exempt from registration.

Six accidents were notified and investigated. In one instance, a formal warning was issued regarding the safeguarding of machinery.

A separate annual report has been submitted to the Ministry of Labour.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

1. The Council unsuccessfully prosecuted the owner of a site on which caravans were stationed. The defendant produced in Court a certificate issued by the Caravan Tourists' Association which is an organisation exempted by the Minister.
2. The Council has applied to the Minister for an Order under Paragraph 13 of Schedule I of the Act which will come into force from the 1st May, 1967. This will have the effect of removing certain exemptions contained in the Schedule.
3. Difficulty has been experienced with itinerant caravan dwellers stationed without permission on the Council's Car Parks. With the co-operation of the Police they have been persuaded to move without the necessity of taking drastic action.

HOUSING

Clearance of Sub-Standard Houses

1. Exception has been taken by the Council and occupiers to the use of the word "slum" and the heading as above will be used in future.
2. 2 - 15 Alma Road, Northchurch
A Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of these 14 houses has been confirmed with modification by the Minister.
3. 10 - 21 Gossoms End
Twelve houses in a confirmed Clearance Order were demolished by the Council in default.
4. One individual unfit house was closed and a Demolition Order made in respect of another.
5. There are still 106 houses to be dealt with in the current programme.
It is anticipated that substantial progress will be made in 1967 when more Council houses will be available.

Standard Improvement Grants

Twenty-two applications have been received, twenty were approved and eighteen grants totalling £2,900 have been paid.

The following summary of the position in regard to the provision of Council houses is given by your Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. B.E.A. Badman:-

"Billet Lane - 39 Flats and Maisonettes

This scheme was successfully completed during the year, the last dwelling being completed and handed over on 22nd August, 1966.

Lagley - Old Persons Development

This contract is proceeding satisfactorily and the end of 1966 saw the first 12 two bedroom flats occupied.

Ashlyns Estate - Roads and Sewer Contract

This contract proceeded during the year with numerous frustrations, but is now nearly completed. Tenders were invited during the year for the first housing contract (185 dwellings) and work is to start in May, 1967."

During the year the following houses were:-

(a) Commenced only:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	48	Bungalows, flats and flatlets	140

(b) Completed:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	51	Flats and Maisonettes	46

The position in regard to HOUSING SCHEMES at 31.12.66 was as follows:-

(a) Particulars of Schemes completed since 1.1.45 to 31.12.66.

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Highfield House Estate	30	Prefabricated bungalows
Swing Gate Lane Estate	20	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour
Victoria Road	10	Unity, 3-bedroom, parlour
Durrants Farm Estate	430	Brick, 4-bedroom; 3-bedroom 2-bedroom, Old Persons Bungalows; single persons' flats
Westfield Estate (No.1)	18	Brick houses (4); bungalows (4)
Westfield Estate (No.2)	80	2 and 3-bedroom houses and Old Person's Dwellings and flats
Westfield Estate (No.3)	104	2 and 3-bedroom houses; 1-bedroom bungalows, 1 and 2-bedroom flats.
"Lagley" (conversion)	7	1 and 2-bedroom flats
Billet Lane	39	Flats and maisonettes

(b) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) commenced, but not completed at 31.12.66.

Site	No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Lagley	48	Bungalows, flats and flatlets	48	12

(c) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) projected, i.e. schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.66.

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Ashlyns Estate ...	185	3-storey flats and 3 and 4-bedroom houses

Number of applicants on waiting list for Council Houses at 31st December, 1966 450

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960Number and Type of Food Premises at 31st December, 1966

Type of Premises	No.	No. Complying with Regulation 16	No. to which Regulation 19 Applies	No. Complying with Regulation 19
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Butchers	10	10	10	10
Cafes, etc.	12	12	12	12
Canteens	4	4	4	4
Clubs	6	6	6	6
Confectioners - flour	7	7	7	7
" - sugar	15	15	15	15
Dairies	2	2	2	2
Fishmongers, wet ...	2	2	2	2
Fishfriers	2	2	2	2
Greengrocers	7	7	7	7
Grocers	19	19	19	19
Multiple Food Shops	10	10	10	10
Nursing Homes	2	2	2	2
Public Houses	21	21	21	21
Public Houses (serving main meals)	3	3	3	3
Registered for -				
(a) sausage making	13	13	13	13
(b) Ice-cream manufacture	2	2	2	2
(c) Ice-cream sale (Prepacked)	38	38	-	28
School Kitchens	19	19	19	19
Slaughterhouses	1	1	1	1

Note:

Regulation 16 requires personal washing facilities to be provided;

Regulation 19 requires facilities for washing food and equipment to be provided.

Milk Distribution

All milk sold in the district is Pasteurised, Tuberculin-Tested, Tuberculin-Tested (Pasteurised) or Ultra Heat Treated.

There are two registered dairies and six retail distributors who sell milk which is bottled or cartoned outside the district.

Ice Cream

Thirty-eight premises are registered for the retail sale of ice cream. The ice cream sold is prepacked and exclusive to national proprietary brands.

Two premises are registered for manufacture. One of these is limited to the manufacture of "soft" ice cream only.

Five samples were taken and all were satisfactory.

Poultry Processing Premises

There are no such premises within the district.

Slaughterhouses

Slaughtering is confined to one small private slaughterhouse which complies with the construction regulations. All the meat is inspected after office hours. The arrangements with Hemel Hempstead Borough Council for a relief Meat Inspector were continued and no untoward difficulty was experienced.

The following table shows the extent of Tuberculosis and other diseases found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the district during 1966:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	181	-	-	708	2	-
Number inspected	181	-	-	708	2	-
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	-	-	4	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tu- berculosis and cysticerci	10.0	-	-	0.5	-	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refig- eration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Foodstuffs found to be Unfit for Human Consumption

Unfit foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's refuse tip. The following were also dealt with after voluntary surrender:

Meat and offal from slaughterhouse	274 lbs.
Meat and offal	629 lbs.
Fish	252 lbs.
Rabbits	60 lbs.

Potatoes	750 lbs.
Cooked Meat	65 lbs.
Frozen Foods	1,545 pkts
Dry Foods	27 pkts
Tinned Food	3,198 tins

Complaints

Eleven complaints were received and four warning letters were sent to manufacturers. There were no prosecutions during the year, but two are pending.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Tables showing cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year

Disease	Total cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	133	-	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	1	1	Nil
Erysipelas	1	-	Nil
Food Poisoning	57	-	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	-	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis.	35	8	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups

Age Groups	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year	3	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	9	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 3 "	26	-	-	1	-	1
3 - 4 "	16	-	-	-	-	1
4 - 5 "	21	-	-	1	-	1
5 - 10 "	52	1	-	-	-	9
10 - 15 "	-	-	-	23	-	9
15 - 25 "	3	-	-	26	-	8
25 - 45 "	-	-	1	2	1	4
45 - 65 "	-	-	-	4	-	2
65 years and over .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	3	-	-	-	-	1
Total cases notified:	133	1	1	57	1	35

TUBERCULOSIS

The following Tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of cases on the Register at 1st January 1966	32	46	5	5
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year ...	3	-	-	2
Number of cases added to the Register other than by notification (i.e. transfers in, etc.) ...	-	1	-	-
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	6	3	2	2
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year ...	29	44	3	5

Age (years)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1 years .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 " .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 " .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 " .	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 " .	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown .	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-

RURAL DISTRICT OF

BERKHAMSTED

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1966

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

The Rural District of Berkhamsted is composed of the parishes of Northchurch, Aldbury, Wigginton, Tring Rural, Nettleden (with Potten End) and Little Gaddesden, which comprises an area of 17,572 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1966	...	...	6,570
Number of inhabited houses according to Valuation List at			
31st December, 1966	...	...	2,136
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966	...	...	£262,892
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1966/67	...	...	£1,012

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births :

									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	52	91
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Total									43	55	98

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 14.8

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 15.9

Still Births : Nil

Deaths :

Males 41, Females 32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.1
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.9
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number of Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total									1	-	1

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2

Death Rate per 1,000 Population From:

Heart and Circulatory Diseases	... ..	3.81
Cancer	... ..	1.83
Vascular lesions of the Nervous System	... ..	1.52
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of Respiratory System)	... ..	1.37
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excluding T.B. but including Syphilis and other V.D.)	... ..	0.15

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1966 was 6,570 as compared with 6,510 at mid-1965. The natural increase of the population last year, i.e. excess of births over deaths, was 25.

Comparability Factors

Comparability factors in respect of births and deaths have been supplied by the Registrar-General and for your district are 1.08 and 0.98 respectively. These are the factors by which the crude birth and death rates are multiplied so as to make the rates comparable with the adjusted rates for other areas and with rates for the country as a whole.

The approximation of both factors to unity indicates that your population closely approaches by age and sex distribution the standard population of the country.

Births

The number of live births registered in the district during the year, after allowing for the inward and outward transfers, was 98 a decrease of 26 on the previous year.

The adjusted birth rate was 15.9 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 20.6 for the previous year and with 17.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births

No still-births were registered during the year. The still-birth rate was Nil per 1,000 (live and still) births as compared with 8.0 in the previous year and 15.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the district was 73 (males 41, females 32) an increase of eight as compared with 1965.

The adjusted death rate was 10.9 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 9.7 for the previous year and with 11.7 for England and Wales.

The principal causes of death in order of numerical importance were : Disease of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, and Respiratory Diseases.

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate was 10.2 per 1,000 live births as compared with nil for the previous year and with 19.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths in Age Groups

								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
1 - 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
15 - 25 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-	2
25 - 35 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
35 - 45 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
55 - 65 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3	10
65 - 75 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	20
75 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	17	33
ALL CAUSES								41	32	73

Causes of Death in 1966

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	4	2	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	3
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	7	10
18. Coronary disease, angina	10	7	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease	4	2	6
21. Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	2	2
24. Bronchitis	6	-	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
34. All other accidents	1	1	2
35. Suicide	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES	41	32	73

Infant Mortality in 1966

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

The parishes of Aldbury, Tring Rural and Wigginton are supplied by the Bucks Water Board.

The parishes of Little Gaddesden, Potten End (including the hamlet of St. Margarets) and Northchurch are supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

It is understood that the fluoride content of the water supplied by the Bucks Water Board is less than 0.1 parts per million and that the water supplied by the Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Company has a fluoride content of not more than 0.2 parts per million.

Routine sampling of water supplies has not been carried out by this Council to date, but it is hoped to commence such sampling during the forthcoming year.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and population supplied from public water mains are shown in the following table :

Parish	Population (approx.)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
		Houses	Population	Houses	Population
Aldbury	1,006	299	1,006	-	-
Little Gaddesden	1,157	348	1,157	-	-
Nettleden (with Potten End) ..	1,186	377	1,186	-	-
Northchurch ...	1,128	350	1,128	-	-
Tring Rural ...	966	279	937	11	29
Wigginton	1,141	363	1,141	-	-

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The privately owned swimming bath at Deer Leap, Ringshall, is open to the public and is used by a number of schools within the District and surrounding area. The bath is supplied by mains water, and has a chlorination plant and continuous sand pressure filtration. The owners hope to install a heating unit before the commencement of the 1967 season.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Drainage and Sewerage

Aldbury, Northchurch and Wigginton :

Preparation of a sewerage scheme to serve the villages is well advanced.

Little Gaddesden :

Following a survey of the existing drainage, the Council's Consulting Engineers were asked to investigate in greater detail alternative methods of providing a comprehensive scheme of sewage disposal for the Little Gaddesden area. The Consulting Engineers' report is expected early in 1967.

Nettleden with Potten End :

The village of Potten End was sewerred in 1963 and practically all those properties which are on the line of sewer have been connected. The village of Nettleden has not been sewerred.

Tring Rural :

Although the preparation of the sewerage scheme is well advanced it has not been possible to put the scheme forward for Ministry approval during this year. Such approval will be sought during 1967.

Cesspool Emptying

Three cesspool emptying vehicles are in operation. The service is controlled by the Council's Surveyor. This work continues to be a very essential service while the major part of the area is without main drainage.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

A fortnightly collection of refuse was carried out, and whilst a fortnightly collection is not generally considered to be a very satisfactory arrangement, the work itself was carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

A new Shelvoke and Drewry 18 cu.yds. refuse lorry was purchased in January 1966, and has effected some improvement in the mens' working conditions.

The Council have now purchased an angle-dozer for use on the refuse tip and, no doubt, this will result in increased efficiency in the work of refuse disposal. To some extent, it should also improve the conditions under which the tip attendant has to work. A small staffroom has also been provided at the refuse tip.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories
Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	10	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not inclu- ded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	1	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	11	5	-	-

2.	Cases in which DEFECTS were found	Nil
3.	OUTWORKERS :	
	Making wearing apparel	1

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Visits and Inspections

General :

Houses - Public Health Acts	21
Housing Acts	14
Overcrowding	-
Infectious diseases	17
Problem families and old people	1
Water supplies	10
Keeping animals	6
Drainage	55
Moveable dwellings	14
Factories, workshops and workplaces	4
Schools	1
Offices, shops and railway premises	16
Animal boarding establishments	3
Petroleum Acts	12
Pests Acts - rats and mice	1,464
Flies, insects and pigeons	4
Rivers and streams	2
Other visits	12

Food Premises :

Butchers shops	4
Greengrocers and fruiterers	1
Bakehouses	5
Licensed premises	3
Restaurants etc.	5
Mobile food traders and delivery vehicles	5
Grocers and other food premises	5
Food inspection visits	8

Notices Served and Complied with

	Outstanding 31.12.65	Served 1966	Completed 1966	Outstanding 31.12.66
Formal	-	4	3	1
Informal	-	18	3	15
	-	22	6	16

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

There have been no new registrations under the above Act during the course of the year. The registered number of premises remains, therefore, at 16. At least one visit has been made to each registered property. Only very minor infringements of the Act were noted and such infringements were in most cases immediately remedied.

No accidents were reported under the Act.

HOUSING

The purchase of sites and development of existing sites for Council housing are proceeding as follows :

- Potten End** - Housing development at Wulff's nursery land and adjoining allotment land is practically completed and the properties will be occupied early in 1967. The development will result in eight semi-detached three-bedroom houses and two blocks each containing four one-bedroom flats for aged persons, together with two three-bedroom houses.
- Little Gaddesden** - The proposal to erect ten old people's dwellings and one warden's bungalow on land at the rear of the Bridgewater Arms car park, Little Gaddesden, had to be abandoned owing to the Council's inability to meet planning requirements for the site access. The Council are continuing to search for an alternative site.
- Aldbury** - In 1965 the Council purchased twelve sub-standard cottages known as Maunders Row, with a view to obtaining their improvement and renovation. A scheme has now been prepared, and approved, which will result in two one-bedroom cottages suitable for aged persons and five three-bedroom cottages. A tender has been accepted and work is about to commence.

Under the provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, the following Improvement Grants were approved :-

	<u>Number</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
Discretionary Grants	8	8	£2,342
Standard Grants	2	2	£245

Two houses were demolished following the making of demolition orders.

During the year the following houses were :-

(a) Commenced only :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	Nil	-	22

(b) Completed :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	Nil	-	29

The position in regard to HOUSING SCHEMES at 31.12.66 was as follows :-

(a) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) completed since 1.1.45 up to 31.12.66

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Wigginton:		
Wick Road	16	2 and 3-bedroom
Fieldway	8	3-bedroom
Chesham Road	6	2 and 3-bedroom
Highfield Road	14	2 and 3-bedroom
Commonfield	8	1-bedroom bungalows
Aldbury:		
Malting Lane	4	2 and 3-bedroom
Stoneycroft	12	3-bedroom
Berryfield	8	3-bedroom
Trooper Road	8	2-bedroom
Wilstone:		
New Road	4	3-bedroom
Main Street	2	3-bedroom bungalows
Orchard Place	6	3-bedroom houses and 1-bedroom flats
Little Gaddesden:		
Cromer Close	28	3-bedroom
Long Marston:		
Tring Road	8	3-bedroom
Bromley	28	3 and 4-bedroom houses; 1 and 2-bedroom bungalows
Northchurch:		
Dudswell	2	3-bedroom
Potten End:		
Vicarage Road	10	3-bedroom
Hedgeside	28	2 and 3-bedroom houses and 2-bedroom bungalows
Briar Close	6	1-bedroom bungalows

(b) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) commenced but not completed at 31.12.66

Site	No. of Houses	Type	No. Commenced	No. Completed
Potten End	18	3-bedroom houses (10) 1-bedroom flats (8)	18	-

(c) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) projected, i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.66

Site	Proposed number of Houses	Type
Aldbury	12	3-bedroom houses
Wigginton	24	3-bedroom houses
Wilstone	40	3-bedroom houses (32) and 1-bedroom flats (8)

Caravans

There are three licensed caravan sites in the Rural District as follows:-

Northchurch (The Limit)	50 caravans
Wigginton (Beech Park, formerly Happy Days) ...	30 caravans
Wigginton (Elroban)	4 caravans

Beech Park, Wigginton:

The ownership of this caravan site changed hands during the year and the new owner has made application for permission, under the Town and Country Planning Acts, to increase the number of caravans permitted on the site. Application under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, for permission to increase the number of caravans has not yet been made.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat and Food Inspection

There are no slaughterhouses in operation in the Rural District. Animals purchased by local butchers are slaughtered in an adjoining area, but the majority of the meat offered for sale is supplied by the wholesale meat trade.

Food Premises

Thirty-six visits were made in connection with food premises and mobile food shops etc. Several informal notices were served and in most cases works were immediately put in hand to obtain compliance with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

Following the serving of an informal notice in respect of the Bakery at Aldbury, the owner commenced works to comply with the relevant legislation but later abandoned the Bakery which has since remained unused.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Number and Type of Food Premises at 31st December, 1966 :-

Type of Premises	No.	No. Complying with Regulation 16	No. to which Regulation 19 applies	No. Complying with Regu- lation 19
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Butchers	2	2	2	2
Cafes and Restaurants..	1	1	1	1
Grocers & Greengrocers.	10	10	10	10
Greengrocers (not in- cluded above	1	-	1	1
Sugar Confectionery (sweets)	3	3	2	3
Licensed premises	13	13	13	13
Licensed premises ser- ving main meals (in- cluded in above)	2	2	2	2
Registered for sale of ice cream(prepacked)..	10	10	9	10
School kitchens	7	7	7	7
Nursing home	1	1	1	1

Note : Regulation 16 requires personal washing facilities to be provided.
Regulation 19 requires facilities for washing food and equipment to be provided.

Exemptions : Exemption from the requirements of Sections 15, 16 (1), 16 (2) and 19 was granted in respect of a greengrocery used solely in connection with a mobile shop. Water is obtained from a standpipe in the adjoining yard and hand washing facilities are provided in the mobile shop. The trader is self-employed person with no assistants.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table showing cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	Nil	Nil
Measles	8	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	1	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Erysipelas
Under 1 year	1	1	1
1 - 2 years	1	2	1
2 - 3 years	1	1	1
3 - 4 years	1	1	1
4 - 5 years	1	2	1
5 - 10 years	1	1	1
10 - 15 years	1	1	1
15 - 25 years	1	1	1
25 - 45 years	1	1	1
45 - 65 years	1	1	1
65 years and over	1	1	1
Age unknown	1	1	1
Total Cases Notified	1	8	1

TUBERCULOSIS

The following Tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of the new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year :-

	Fulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of cases on the Register at 1st January, 1966	17	14	-	1
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	-	-	-	-
Number of cases added to the Register other than by notification (i.e. transfers-in, etc.)	-	2	-	-
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	-	4	-	-
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	17	12	-	1

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF
TRING

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1966

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

Area	4,407 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-1966	7,740
Number of inhabited houses according to Valuation List at 31st December, 1966	2,475
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966	£280,014
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1966/67	£1,143

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	75	77	152
Illegitimate	5	3	8
Total ...	80	80	160

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 20.7

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 20.5

Still Births :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total ...	2	1	3

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births : 18.4

Deaths :

Males 31, Females 31	62
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	8.0
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil

Number of Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total ...	-	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All infants per 1,000 live births	6.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	6.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ,	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	6.3
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	6.3
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	24.5

Death Rate per 1,000 Population From :

Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.58
Vascular lesions of the Nervous System	1.29
Cancer	1.68
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of Respiratory System)... ..	1.16
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	0.13

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1966 was 7,740 as compared with 7,650 at mid-1965. The natural increase of the population last year, i.e. the excess of births over deaths, was 98.

Comparability Factors

The comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General for births and deaths are 0.99 and 1.14 respectively. When the crude birth and death rates are multiplied by these factors an adjusted rate is obtained which allows comparison, not only with the rates for previous years, but equally with similar rates for other areas, and with the rates for the country as a whole. Adjusted rates are always strictly comparable whereas crude rates are not.

The need for these adjustments arises from the differences in age and sex distribution in different areas. The factors confirm the continued increase in the numbers in the younger age groups.

Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births a net total of 160 live births was registered in the district during the year, a decrease of twelve as compared with 1965.

The adjusted birth rate was 20.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 22.3 for the previous year and with 17.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births

After adjustment for transfers, three still-births were registered during the year. The still-birth rate was 18.4 per 1,000 (live and still) births, as compared with 5.8 in the previous year and with 15.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the district was 62, a decrease of two on the total for the year 1965.

The adjusted death rate was 9.1 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 9.4 for the previous year and with 11.7 for England and Wales.

The principal causes of death in order of numerical importance were : Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System and Respiratory Diseases.

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate was 6.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 5.8 for the previous year and with 19.0 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality in 1966

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

Deaths in Age Groups

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	-	1	1
1 - 5 years	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	1	-	1
15 - 25 years	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	-	1	1
45 - 55 years	1	-	1
55 - 65 years	4	5	9
65 - 75 years	9	5	14
75 years and over	16	19	35
All causes	31	31	62

Causes of Death in 1966

Cause of Death						Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	2	-	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3	-	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	-	6	6
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES						31	31	62

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Water for the whole of the Urban District is supplied by the Bucks. Water Board and throughout the year was satisfactory both in quality and quantity. The water for the area is derived from wells and boreholes sunk into the chalk at New Ground, Dancers End and Hawridge.

Twenty-six bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and fifty of the treated water. All samples were free from coliform organisms in 100 mls. and the chemical analysis was satisfactory. The water is not plumbosolvent and no contamination of the supply was detected. The fluoride content of this water is below 0.1 p.p.m.

The following table sets out particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from public water mains :-

Population	(a) Supply direct to houses		(b) Supply by means of standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
7,740	2,465	7,740	-	-

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming baths within the Urban District. The nearest public swimming baths are at Ringshall, Berkhamsted, Aylesbury and Amersham.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

A relief 12-inch diameter foul sewer was laid in the valley extending from Brook Street to Miswell Lane. The cost of the sewer was borne by a consortium of developers, who, during the year, commenced residential and industrial development to the west of Miswell Lane.

Although charges were levied during the year in respect of certain farm and trade effluents, the volume and strength of effluents likely to be discharged from such premises in the future, was not determined. However, there are prospects that this matter will be resolved during the first half of 1967.

The high strength of crude sewage arriving at the sewage disposal works continued to impose a heavy load on the treatment plant. The present method of irrigating the effluent from the settlement tanks on land is not satisfactory and the provision of bacteria beds and humus tanks requires urgent consideration.

The arrangements made with a neighbouring Authority for the emptying of cesspools and septic tanks are still operating satisfactorily. The cost of the service is recovered from the owners or occupiers of the properties.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Due to continued new development the refuse collection team and vehicle were working to the limit of their capacity to maintain a collection once every eight days. On occasions this period was extended still further, particularly

following Bank Holidays and absences due to holidays and sickness. An incentive bonus scheme for the refuse collectors was approved by the Council and discussed with the appropriate trade union with a view to implementing the scheme when a new vehicle was purchased. A provisional order was placed for a 19 cu. yd. air space vehicle with equipment to compress the refuse and it is anticipated that the vehicle will be delivered during the spring of 1967.

Towards the end of the year the capacity of the extension to the Miswell Farm refuse tip was being rapidly exhausted and it is evident that as soon as the new vehicle is delivered the refuse will have to be transported to a tip at Radlett. This tip is a distance of twenty miles from Tring and it is privately owned and managed.

During the year, the possibility of establishing a controlled refuse tip in a disused quarry situated some seven miles from Tring, was discussed with an adjoining Local Authority with a view to making joint refuse disposal arrangements. Various planning objections have been made against this proposal but both Authorities intend to pursue the possibility of establishing such a tip.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ..	33	16	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	6	16	-	-
Total	45	37	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found Nil

3. OUTWORKERS :

Making wearing apparel	11
Total ...	11

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Visits and Inspections

GENERAL:

Houses - Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Problem families and old people	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drainage and sewerage	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factories, workplaces, farms and outworkers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Building Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Public Halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Pests Act - Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Flies and Insects	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

FOOD PREMISES:

Butchers and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Restaurants and kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Public Market and Foodstalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	41

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the Urban District.

HOUSING

Eight families were rehoused from slum properties. Action taken under the Housing Act resulted in eight houses being closed in pursuance of Closing Orders, or undertakings not to re-let.

The two blocks of flats, each containing 9 dwellings, at the "Eight Acres" Council housing estate were completed, thus bringing to a conclusion the development of this estate.

The 13 sub-standard dwellings on the Surrey Place site were demolished and tenders were invited for the erection of 15 flats (including flatlets for the elderly) on this site.

Negotiations for the purchase of a site for Council dwellings at Icknield Way, New Mill were still proceeding at the end of the year.

During the year the following number of houses were :-

(a) Commenced only:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	-	-	134

(b) Completed:

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	18	1-bedroom flats (8) 2-bedroom flats (6) 3-bedroom maisonettes (4)	107

The position in regard to HOUSING SCHEMES at 31.12.66 was as follows:-

(a) Particulars of Schemes completed since 1.1.45 to 31.12.66

Site	Number of houses	Type
Woodland Close	46	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour
Garnel	24	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour
Dundale Road	10	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour
Meadow Close	6	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour
Goldfield	40	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour
Goldfield Estate ...	17	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour; 1 and 2-bedroom bungalows
New Road	12	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour
Eight Acres - Phase 1...	29	Brick, 3 and 4-bedroom, parlour; 1 and 2-bedroom, non-parlour
Eight Acres - Phase 2...	72	Brick, 1,2 and 3-bedroom flats, maisonettes and houses.

(b) Particulars of Schemes (or Contracts) projected, i.e. schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.66

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Surrey Place, Akeman Street ...	15	1-person flatlets (8); 2-person, 1 bedroom flats (7)
Wingrave Road, New Mill	20	3-bedroom houses

Number of applicants for Council houses at end of 1966 173

The inspection and supervision of food premises received special attention during the first few months of the year, but this work was subsequently hampered by staff shortage.

1. Number of food premises in the Urban District :-

Food Hygiene (General Regulations, 1960)

Type of Food Premises	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg.19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.19
Fish Shops	1	1	1	1
Fried fish shops ...	1	1	1	1
Butchers shops	7	7	7	7
Greengrocers	6	6	4	3
Grocers and mixed trade, including sugar confectionery	26	26	8	8
Bakers and Confectioners	4	3	4	4
Cafes and restaurants	3	3	3	3
Canteens	10	9	10	10
Clubs	4	2	2	2
Dairies	2	-	-	-
Licensed premises:				
Public houses	9	9	9	9
Serving main meals.	3	3	3	3
Off Licenses	4	4	-	-
Totals	80	74	52	51

2. Number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act:

Ice-cream premises	14
Preserved food premises	9

3. Number of inspections of registered food premises 30

4. Ice-cream is manufactured at one premise only, and the registration certificate is limited to the use of pre-packed liquid mix.

5. There are no egg pasteurizing plants in the district.

6. There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

7. Milk sampling for the presence of Brucella Abortus is carried out by the County Health Department who notify the District Council of any positive samples found. The farms concerned are visited by the public health inspector to ensure that no raw milk is consumed.

8. Unfit food surrendered at food premises (other than slaughterhouses) is disposed of by burial at the refuse tip and comprised of the following foodstuffs :-

	lbs.	ozs.
Flour, cereal & sugar	46	8
Fats	2	8
Fresh Meat	70	8
Canned Meat	20	2
Canned Fruit	36	4
Canned foods - various	13	11
	189	9

Meat Inspection

There are two slaughterhouses in the district where meat is inspected by veterinary surgeons in private practice. All the animals killed have been inspected since the Meat Inspection Regulations came into force in October, 1963.

Meat and offal condemned at the two slaughterhouses is disposed of at a dog food factory situated in a neighbouring district where it is sterilised and processed.

The following table shows the extent of tuberculosis and other disease found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the district during 1966 :-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part :

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	4,106	38	1,799	7,160	2,841	-
Number inspected	4,106	38	1,799	7,160	2,841	-
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	3	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,690	3	38	1,490	497	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	41.1	7.9	2.2	20.8	17.5	-
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
CYSTICERCOSIS:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	11	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups

Age Groups	Measles
Under 1 year	-
1 - 2 years	2
2 - 3 "	5
3 - 4 "	-
4 - 5 "	1
5 - 10 "	3
10 - 15 "	-
15 - 25 "	-
25 - 45 "	-
45 - 65 "	-
65 years and over	-
Age Unknown	-
Total Cases Notified	11

TUBERCULOSIS

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year :-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of cases on Register at 1st January, 1966	14	5	2	1
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	1	1	-	1
Number of cases added to the Register other than by notification (i.e. transfers-in, etc)	-	-	-	-
Number of cases removed from the Register	1	2	-	1
Total number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	14	4	2	1

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 " ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals ...	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-

HERTFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

Dacorum Division

comprised of

The Borough of Hemel Hempstead

The Urban Districts of Berkhamsted and Tring

The Rural Districts of Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1966

by

R. S. HYND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DIVISIONAL STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer:

R. S. HYND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officers:

K.W.M. HARBORD, B.A., M.B., B.Ch. B.A.O., D.P.H.
B.S.M. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B.,
J. POOLE, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.
A.T. RODEN, M.B., B.S.
A. WILKES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H

Clinic Medical Officers (Part-time):

D.D. BROWN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
F.C.J. FAWCETT, M.B., Ch.B.
H.W. JOHN, L.M.S.S.A.

Divisional Nursing Officer:

Mrs. D. CARTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Queen's Nurse.

Deputy Divisional Nursing Officer:

Miss E. COE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Queen's Nurse (Resigned 30.6.66)
Miss B.L. SHIPPAM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Queen's Nurse (Appointed 1.9.66)

Health Visitors:

Mrs. D. ARNOTT	Mrs. A.A. HANDLEY	Miss C.N. McCONACHIE
Miss G. AUSTIN	Mrs. M. HOOK	Mrs. M. McMAHON
Miss C.J. BADCOCK	Miss O.B. IVES	Miss M.G. PRITCHARD
Miss M.L. BAKER	Mrs. E. JAMES	Miss I. WHITMAN
Miss L. BRACKLEY	Miss R.M.S. JOHNSON	Mrs. I.E. WONNEBERGER
Miss M.A. CLEGG	Mrs. S.P. MAITLAND	Mrs. K. CLIFT (Part-time)
Miss S.J. EVANS		Mrs. A.M. SMART (Part-time)

Health Visitor/District Nurse/Midwives:

Mrs. O. CAMPANA	Miss D.I. DOWNES	Miss J. ROBSON
Miss I.A.R. CARTER	Miss K.A. HOPKINS	Miss J.E. SOMERVILLE
	Miss J.L. POWELL	

District Nurse/Midwives:

Mrs. P. BROWNE	Miss A.B. HICKIE	Mrs. J. MURNAGHAN
Miss M. CHALKER	Mrs. E.M.H. KEEN	Miss I. MURRELL
Miss M. DRING	Mrs. M.J. KNIGHT	Miss F.R. PHILLIPS
Mrs. G.C. GRUNDY	Mrs. M. McCONNELL	Miss J.S. SLATER
Mrs. A. HARWOOD		Miss K. YEARS DEN

Midwives:

Miss L. ABRAHAMS	Mrs. A.M. POLLARD	Miss I. SAXBY
------------------	-------------------	---------------

District Nurses:

Mrs. E. BROWN	Mrs. G.M. STOCKWELL
Mr. J.F. GRINDOD	Mrs. E.G. COX (Part-time)
Mrs. E.M. HAMLYN	Mrs. G. NASSE (Part-time)
Mrs. D. KNIGHT	Mrs. G. SEDDON (Part-time)
Mrs. B. SPRATT	Mrs. C.L. VINE (Part-time)

Clinic Nurses:

Mrs. P. BATHE
Mrs. E. GRIFFIN

Mrs. A. PACK

Mrs. M.M. PETERSON
Mrs. N. KERRY

Night Nurse:

Mrs. P.J. PECK

Chest Clinic Visitors:

Mrs. E.M. BOLTON

Miss E.M. WOODWARD

Social Work Unit:

Divisional Social Worker	-	Mr. G.F. GUEST
Divisional Welfare Officer	-	Mr. R.H. CURWEN
Asst. Divisional Welfare Officer	-	Mr. B. WHALLEY
Senior Social Worker (Mental Health)	-	Miss G. ESHELBY
Social Worker (Mental Health)	-	Miss M.J. MILLER
Social Worker (Physically Handicapped)	-	Mrs. I.H. BRAZIER
Social Worker (Blind)	-	Mrs. F. NORTON
Social Worker (Trainee)	-	Miss P.M. FAULKNER

Home Help Service:

Home Help Organiser	-	Mrs. F.C. DIXON
Asst. Home Help Organiser	-	Mrs. B. MAYNE

Chief Clerk:

Mr. D. HARLING

Introduction

In this section of the report an account is given of the services provided in the Division by the County Council. The account, purposely brief, reviews the health services from the local angle and gives emphasis to the local facts and figures. For information on policy and development of the health and welfare services reference should be made to the annual report of the County Medical Officer.

Staff

The medical staff consists of a Divisional Medical Officer who is also the Medical Officer of Health for the five local authorities in the Division, five full-time Assistant County Medical Officers, one of whom is shared with a neighbouring division, and three part-time medical officers for duties in the maternity and child welfare clinics on a sessional basis.

The nursing staff, who are under the general direction of the Divisional Nursing Officer, comprise a Deputy Divisional Nursing Officer, twenty Health Visitors/School Nurses, two of whom are part-time, twenty-one District Nurse/Midwives, seven of whom are also qualified health visitors and perform health visiting work as part of their duties, ten District Nurses, four of whom are part-time, three midwives, one Night Nurse and five part-time Clinic Nurses. A welcome innovation last year was the appointment of a male district nurse whose duties were shared with the neighbouring St. Albans division.

Medical auxiliaries on the central staff of the County Medical Officer give both whole-time and part-time services within the division and include an Audiologist, Audiometrician, Speech Therapists, Orthoptists, Psychotherapist and Teachers of Deaf Children.

The dental unit now consists of three surgeries adequately staffed with dentists, a dental auxiliary and dental attendants, and fully equipped for all dental work.

The family and child psychiatric unit is similarly fully staffed with a consultant psychiatrist, educational psychologist and psychiatric social workers. Only the psychiatrist works part-time in the division.

The medical staff was below strength for much of the year, so while the welfare clinic commitments were largely met, a somewhat reduced school health programme was necessary. It was a year of routine rather than innovation and development.

The nursing staff was at full strength throughout the year. The attachment scheme to general practices continued to work well, and is now generally liked and accepted by everyone. The scheme applies throughout the division except in the rural areas where it is not considered appropriate.

A new venture in nursing was the secondment of two health visitors for further training as group advisors. It is intended to employ them on their return as team leaders in their group practices to co-ordinate the nursing duties of all the members of the team and to act as reliefs when required. If the experiment succeeds, and there is every hope it will, it should be possible in the future to employ more auxiliary nurses in the team under the supervision of the group advisor, leaving the more qualified nurses for the more special duties.

Perhaps the most important innovation in the year, certainly the one with the greatest potential, was the appointment of a divisional social worker and the creation of a social work unit. Social workers have, in the past, tended to be too circumscribed in their outlook, too confined to their own particular discipline with little regard for the disciplines of other workers, no matter how closely linked with their own. Several small independent camps have thus been created with little reference to each other or to a common policy. Progress in social work has in consequence been somewhat restricted.

A social work unit of all social workers has now become to be recognised as the logical aim, and its creation in the division became a practical reality with the appointment of a divisional social worker. He will lead the team of social workers, whether working in the field of mental health, with the aged and physically handicapped, with the blind and deaf, in whatever discipline social work is done so that while each worker may work as an individual in a particular discipline, all will work as a team. In addition, he will keep in touch with the social workers in other departments of the County Council, particularly Education and Children, and with the voluntary social workers in organisations such as the Council of Social Services, Old Persons Welfare Committee, the Churches and various Societies. He will get to know their work and equally inform them of his. Information and knowledge will be more widely spread and team-work will more and more become the common practice.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1966

	Hemel Hempstead Borough	Hemel Hempstead Rural District	Berkhamsted Urban District	Berkhamsted Rural District	Tring Urban District	Dacorum Division	Hertfordshire County Council	England and Wales (provisional figures)
Area, (acres)...	7,193	20,231	1,952	17,572	4,407	51,355	404,524	*
Population	63,570	14,100	15,160	6,570	7,740	107,140	872,100	48,075,300
Live Births ...	1,108	215	235	98	160	1,816	15,008	850,000
Still-births ..	15	4	4	-	3	26	178	13,300
Deaths	467	112	143	73	62	857	7,960	563,626
Deaths under 1 year of age ..	17	5	4	1	1	28	209	16,147
<u>Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 esti- mated popula- tion:								
Crude	17.4	15.2	15.5	14.8	20.7	17.0	17.3	17.7
Adjusted ...	14.8	16.0	16.0	15.9	20.5	*	16.3	-
<u>Death Rates</u> All per 1,000 estimated population:								
Crude	7.3	8.0	9.4	11.1	8.0	8.0	9.1	11.7
Adjusted ..	11.1	7.9	10.1	10.9	9.1	*	10.1	-
Infective and Parasitic di- seases exclud- ing T.B. but including Syphilis and other V.D.....	0.02	0.07	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.03	*	*

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1966

(continued)

	Hemel Hempstead Borough	Hemel Hempstead Rural District	Berkhamsted Urban District	Berkhamsted Rural District	Tring Urban District	Deccor Division	Hertfordshire County Council	England and Wales (provisional figures)
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System..	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.05	0.03	*
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	*
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.90	0.71	0.12	1.37	1.16	0.95	1.24	*
Cancer	1.54	1.42	1.85	1.83	1.68	1.59	1.85	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.47	2.84	3.43	3.81	2.58	2.72	3.09	*
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.88	1.13	1.32	1.52	1.29	1.05	1.31	*
<u>Infant Mortality ...</u>	15.3	23.3	17.0	10.2	6.3	15.4	13.9	19.0
<u>Neo-Natal Mortality ...</u>	10.8	18.6	8.5	10.2	6.3	11.0	9.3	12.9
<u>Early Neo-Natal Mortality ...</u>	9.1	18.6	8.5	10.2	6.3	10.5	7.9	11.1
<u>Peri-Natal Mortality ...</u>	23.2	36.5	25.1	10.2	24.5	24.4	19.5	26.3
<u>Still-Birth Rate</u>	13.4	18.2	16.7	0.0	18.4	14.1	11.7	15.4
<u>Maternal Mortality ...</u>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3

* Figures not available.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of live births registered in the Divisional Area during 1966 was 1,816 (944 males, 872 females), a decrease of 200 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE was 17.0 per 1,000 estimated population as compared with 19.0 for 1965.

The illegitimate live births number 115 or 6.3 per cent. of the total live births compared with 105 and 5.2 per cent. respectively for the previous year.

Deaths

The deaths assigned to the Divisional Area after correction for transfers were 857 (452 males and 405 females), a decrease of 25 on the total for 1965.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 8.0 per 1,000 estimated population, as compared with 8.3 for the previous year. The principal causes of death in order of numerical importance were :

1. Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System.
2. Cancer.
3. Vascular lesions of the Nervous System.
4. Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis).

These four causes accounted for 79 per cent. of the total deaths.

Infant Mortality

In 1966 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 23, a decrease of eight from the previous year. Twenty-one infants were under four weeks of age at time of death.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE was 15.4 per 1,000 live births as compared with 17.9 for 1965.

The death rate among legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births was 15.9 as compared with 18.8 for 1965.

The death rate among illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births was 8.7 as compared with 0.0 for 1965.

The following table gives the causes of death of all infants under one year of age:-

	Under 1 weeks	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year of age
Respiratory Syndrome of the New Born....	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Prematurity.....	13	1	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	14
Haemorrhagic Disease of the New Born....	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital Mal- formations.....	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Pneumonitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	6
Asphyxia (Accidental)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Total.....	19	1	-	-	20	1	7	-	-	23

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Smallpox

No instance of the disease was recorded and the only comment necessary relates to the question of vaccination.

After only one year of experiment we reverted to the old system of recording vaccinations and re-vaccinations by which the age at vaccination and not the year of birth is the basis for collection and recording. In comparison with 1965 the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations last year increased by 131. 38% of the infant population was vaccinated as compared with the national average for 1965 of 33%.

Details of the vaccinations and re-vaccinations for the various age groups are:-

	Under 1	1 - 2 years	2 - 5 years	5 - 15 years	15 + years	Totals
VACCINATIONS						
(a) By Clinic Medical Officers	7	434	281	5	-	727
(b) By Private Doctors	63	326	237	52	5	683
RE-VACCINATIONS						
(a) By Clinic Medical Officers	-	-	5	7	-	12
(b) By Private Doctors	-	-	9	79	10	98
Total vaccinated and re-vaccinated	70	760	532	143	15	1,520

Any reactions following vaccination, and few were recorded, were generally mild and fleeting.

Diphtheria

The number of primary immunizations showed a decrease of 278 from the previous year, but secondary immunizations or booster injections, increased by 967. The decline in primary immunizations was largely attributable to the fall in the number of births; the increase in secondary immunizations was due to the clinics catching up on the backlog of immunizations from the previous year, apparent in that year's low figure.

Details of the immunizations in the various age groups are:-

	Year of birth					Totals
	1966	1965	1964-62	1961-52	1951	
PRIMARY IMMUNISATION						
(a) By Clinic or School Medical Officers	516	510	21	4	-	1,051
(b) By Private Doctors	266	264	30	6	-	566
SECONDARY OR RE-INFORCING INJECTIONS						
(a) By Clinic or School Medical Officers	-	389	576	840	-	1,805
(b) By Private Doctors	-	208	237	352	-	797
Total of primary and secondary immunisations	782	1,371	864	1,202	-	4,219

Whooping Cough

With only two cases of Whooping Cough notified last year and only four in the previous year it does seem that immunization has conquered this disease as it has Diphtheria. But it must be emphasised that freedom from the disease depends entirely upon the level of immunity of the child population. Only so long as this remains high will the disease remain dormant.

Details of the immunizations recorded according to the various age groupings:-

	Year of birth					Totals
	1966	1965	1964-62	1961-52	1951	
PRIMARY IMMUNISATION						
(a) By Clinic Medical Officers	516	510	21	4	-	1,051
(b) By Private Doctors	265	261	30	6	-	562
SECONDARY OR RE-INFORCING INJECTIONS						
(a) By Clinic Medical Officers	-	386	508	30	-	924
(b) By Private Doctors	-	206	223	230	-	659
Total of primary and secondary immunisations	781	1,363	782	270	-	3,196

In 1960 the triple vaccine was first introduced in the County in which the antigens of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus were combined in a single vaccine. The triple vaccine has now been used for a sufficient length of time for the immunisation levels against the three diseases to be roughly the same. It can be safely assumed that between 85% and 90% of the child population are now protected and it is this high level of immunity which allows us to face the future with confidence.

Poliomyelitis

There has now been no instance of Poliomyelitis in the Division for eight years and interest in the disease is, like the three preceeding diseases, centred on the level of immunity within the community.

The percentage of children vaccinated against Poliomyelitis is roughly 85% and about the same level as Diphtheria and Whooping Cough. As with these diseases Polio will not return as long as such a high level of immunity is maintained and there is no evidence that the existing immunization programme is losing any of its impetus and popularity.

Details of the various age groups immunised are shown below:-

	Year of birth					Totals
	1966	1965	1964-62	1961-52	1951	
PRIMARY IMMUNISATION						
(a) By Clinic or School Medical Officer ...	417	841	92	45	-	1,395
(b) By Private Doctors.	139	393	54	16	1	603
SECONDARY OR RE-INFORCING INJECTIONS						
(a) By Clinic or School Medical Officer ...	-	1	72	887	-	960
(b) By Private Doctors.	-	42	70	303	-	415
Total of primary and secondary immunisations.	556	1,277	288	1,251	1	3,373

Note: Oral (Sabin) vaccine was used in all instances except for the following Quadruple vaccine (Salk) injections given by general practitioners (23 primary: 34 secondary).

Scarlet Fever

Only 10 cases, the same as in the previous year, were recorded and again the illness was mild and without complications.

Measles

Measles last year was non-epidemic and the number of cases recorded was relatively small.

The disease, however, remains a great nuisance to sufferers, parents, and school teachers alike, and it is interesting that an effective vaccine has now passed a satisfactory trial and may be put into general use in the near future.

Infectious Hepatitis

This disease of virus origin is rapidly becoming the "bete noire" of the infectious diseases and calls for ever increasing attention. It has been notifiable in the area since 1943 but no cases were recorded prior to 1959. Following this date a small number of cases occurred annually, but in 1965 it was apparent that the number of cases was building up and in that year, 31 cases were notified, 7 of them in December.

In 1966, 110 cases were notified, the peak period occurring during the winter and early spring months. Of these 110 cases, 74 were school children, 32 were adults and 4 were pre-school children.

Geographical distribution revealed no worthwhile leads to the mode of spread, and indeed it is now generally accepted that a number of cases occur without showing jaundice. These cases remain undiagnosed but contribute to spread without showing as links in the chain. Thus schools did not appear to provide a source of infection. It was noticeable, however, that the very close contact expected in homes between members of the same family did provide a definite infective link.

Out of 73 separate households affected, 23 provided two or more notifications. In 14 households there were 2 notifications, in 5 households there were 3 notifications, in 3 households there were 4 notifications and in one instance there were 5 notifications in the one household.

It seems from these figures that fairly intimate contact is necessary for infection to occur. A study of each household revealed that standards of hygiene were usually good in the home. This observation would appear to cast some doubt on the generally accepted mode of spread by the faecal/oral route.

The average time away from school or work due to the disease was 25 days, but varied from one day to 71 days. On the whole the symptoms were not severe in schoolchildren, but there was a tendency for the disease to affect adults more severely. It remains a disease which, in spite of its relative mildness at the moment, must be closely watched and which requires continued research into its cause and prevention.

Notification of Notifiable Infectious Diseases 1966 (corrected)

Disease	District					Totals for Division
	Borough of Hemel Hempstead	Rural District of Hemel Hempstead	Urban District of Berkhamsted	Rural District of Berkhamsted	Urban District of Tring	
Scarlet Fever	9	1	1	1	1	10
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	2
Measles	189	53	133	8	11	394
Dysentery	3	33	1	1	1	36

(continued)

Disease	District					Totals for Division
	Borough of Hemel Hempstead	Rural District of Hemel Hempstead	Urban District of Berkhamsted	Rural District of Berkhamsted	Urban District of Tring	
Acute Pneumonia	-	1	1	-	-	2
Erysipelas	-	-	1	1	-	2
Food Poisoning	2	7	57	-	-	66
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	-	1
Infectious Hepatitis .	74	1	35	-	-	110
Tuberculosis:						
Pulmonary	11	-	3	-	2	16
Non-Pulmonary	4	-	2	-	1	7

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICESDomiciliary Midwives

The total number of confinements among residents in the Division was 1,841, 169 fewer than in the previous year. The percentage of domiciliary births to the total births fell from 43% to 37% but compared with the domiciliary births in 1965, the fall was 22%. The institutional confinements, hospital and nursing home, showed an increase of 24, from 1,139 in 1965, to 1,163 last year. The number of confinements in the St. Paul's Hospital, Hemel Hempstead increased by 58, from 884 to 942. The remaining 221 confinements were in hospitals and nursing homes outside the divisional boundary, 71 within and 150 outside the County boundary.

The number of home confinements was 675, 196 fewer than in 1965. All but one of the confinements were attended by County Council midwives. A total of 363 patients were given gas and air or gas and oxygen analgesia, while a further 188 patients received trichlorethylene analgesia. Pethilorfan injections were administered to 279 patients.

A number of interesting points emerge from the annual statistics. The fall in the number of confinements and thus the birth rate was significant, but of even greater significance was the fact that the fall was entirely in home confinements. Indeed the institutional confinements showed not only a relative, but even an actual, increase.

The statistics surely illustrate what has been an accepted national trend for many years, that given the opportunity women prefer to have their babies in hospital rather than in their homes. Some would prefer to stay the minimum period in hospital, but most are glad to accept the normal stay of around 10 days. The trend is now apparent in this area with the opening of the fourth ward at St. Pauls Hospital, and the acceptance, where home conditions are suitable and with the patient's consent, of the 48 hour discharge scheme. Unfortunately, St. Pauls Hospital, as with many other maternity hospitals, still experiences a shortage of trained midwifery staff, and, in consequence, the fourth ward as yet has never been fully operational. There can be little doubt that when the staffing position improves the number of home confinements will continue to fall and the hospital may then experience difficulty in getting a sufficient number of home confinements for the proper training of the pupil midwives.

Child Welfare Centres

The child welfare clinics of the local health authority and the "well-baby" clinics of the local doctors now flourish side by side with neither losing popularity nor numbers to the other. Clinic attendance has been a national habit with mothers for so many years that it is almost inconceivable that the habit will ever die.

But, although the clinic habit would seem to be immutable, clinic ideas and procedures are not. The fundamental reasons for the existence of child welfare clinics remain the prevention of illness and the dissemination of knowledge and the role of the clinic staff must be that of teacher to help mothers bring up their children. What has changed are the concepts of child health and the changing emphasis in priorities. The emphasis is perhaps no longer on physical defects which these days are relatively few, but on emotional stresses which may rub off on the child. In recent years there has been an increasing realisation that preventive mental health begins in babyhood, in the warm relationship between mother and child. An upset baby may disturb a mother, but the converse is equally true and perhaps more important.

For some years the health visitors have been fortunate in having a psychotherapist to give them regular talks on the emotional development of children and the problems caused by emotional stresses. She has given them knowledge which has proved invaluable in their work, and has better equipped them to help the mother and her growing child. These talks have latterly been extended by the psychotherapist to groups of mothers who have expressed a wish to attend at infant welfare clinics and at mothercraft sessions. The health visitor does not regard herself as an expert in this very specialized field, but she now has a greater understanding of the subject and more readily recognises when expert advice should be obtained.

This "in-service" training for health visitors is something which has been developed in recent years and helps them to keep abreast of modern thought and ideas. It includes regular visits to the paediatric clinics at the hospital, short or long refresher courses organised by the Universities or the teaching hospitals on the many advances in medicine and discussions on new procedures and techniques at County level. Health visiting to be effective must be up-to-date in its ideas and in its outlook and none recognise this truth more than the health visitor.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

I am indebted to Dr. K. W. M. Harbord for the report on the School Health Service.

Introduction.

The School Health Service, being primarily preventive, depends on the three principles of Preventive Medicine - immunisation, health education and the early detection of disease.

The major part of the work of the School Health Service remains in the early detection of disease. However, health education claims an increasing role, particularly in mental health. The early detection of psychological disturbance and the remedy of health education are here combined in the prevention of disease and the promotion of good health.

Prevention by Immunisation

Most of the immunisation procedures known and accepted as general measures for children are now virtually complete by the age of school entry. One important preventive measure still remains to be carried out at school - immunisation against tuberculosis by means of B.C.G. vaccination.

Now that the B.C.G. vaccination programme has been in operation for ten years, it is perhaps a good time to review its progress in this Division.

The following table gives a graphic description of the progress over the decade from 1956 - 1966:-

Year	Percentage Acceptance	Number Tuberculin Skin-tested	Number Positive to Skin test	Percentage Tuberculin Negative	Number Vaccinated	Remarks
1957	71%	728	99	86%	629	2 cases suffering
1958	75%	914	118	87%	794	pulm.T.B 2 negatives not vaccinated.
1959	73%	867	90	89%	775	- do -
1960	69%	1,271	113	91%	1,158	Scheme extended to include 13 yrs. and upwards to 18 yrs
1961	78%	1,458	95	94%	1,364	
1962	82%	1,271	69	95%	1,202	
1963	85%	1,356	70	95%	1,286	
1964	83%	1,266	41	97%	1,225	
1965	85%	1,366	21	98%	1,345	
1966	88%	1,420	19	99%	1,401	

Two salient features emerge from these figures. The first is that the percentage acceptance among those offered vaccination rose from 71% in 1957 to 88% in 1966. This signifies an increasing awareness of the need for vaccination amongst parents of schoolchildren. It is to be hoped that increasing publicity and health education will increase the percentage acceptance to keep pace with the increase of the percentage tuberculin negative.

This is the second, and perhaps more important, feature to emerge from the table. The percentage tuberculin negative rose steadily from 86% in 1957 to 99% in 1966. These figures can be taken as an indication of the effectiveness of B.C.G. vaccination schemes and of schemes to control tuberculosis generally. Less children are acquiring immunity naturally as a result of contact with cases of active tuberculosis. The need to increase the numbers given artificial immunity thus becomes greater as the numbers with natural immunity fall, and the tracing and treatment of active cases becomes vital to community protection.

Prevention by Health Education

Individual advice and discussion is generally accepted as the most effective method of health education. Traditionally such individual advice and discussion with parents, teachers and children has been an important part of the work of the school doctor and school nurse. This individual approach to health education remains important in cases where there is a threat to the psychological stability of the schoolchild. However, advice and discussion on a group basis, reaches a wider audience and is more economical of time and for these two reasons has been introduced into the School Health Service.

School nurses have been invited to give regular instruction on health subjects in seven of our eleven Secondary Schools. The two Grammar Schools included in the eleven have so far declined health instruction on the grounds that their senior pupils are already too busy academically to study a non-academic subject. One Junior School and the E.S.N. School have also invited their School Nurses to teach health subjects to the children.

Each nurse bases her course of instruction on the syllabus issued by the Health Education Section. It is of necessity greatly varied according to the needs of each set of pupils. Under the general title of "Mothercraft and Personal Hygiene" are included such diverse subjects as personal hygiene, diet, clothing, footwear, care of teeth, personal cleanliness and menstruation, food hygiene and the planning and preparation of meals, household budgeting, first aid and disease prevention, family relationships (including sex education) and the care of infants.

For the most part, the schools participating are given two teaching periods weekly and except for talks on menstruation and the care of infants, boys are included where possible. The School Nurses make full use of the teaching aids, to which they have access. Flannelgraphs, filmstrips, pictures, charts and sound films, promote discussion and stimulate a real interest in the series of talks.

One school nurse is worthy of special mention as in addition to her Health Education course, she runs a special course of instruction for pupils participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This course is taken out of school hours, and is well attended as a mark of its popularity.

Prevention by the Early Detection of Disease

Although more of the chronic diseases and defects of childhood are detectable at an early age, there remain a considerable number of physical and psychological disturbances which first become detectable during school life. It is in the detection and referral for treatment of these disturbances that most of the work of the School Health Service lies.

In the first table (a), which follows, are shown by age-groups the overall numbers of children who have undergone a full medical examination. This is a screening process as is the procedure for special inspections shown in table (b). Also in table (b) is the number of re-inspections comprised of those children with a defect requiring continued observation.

Number of Children seen at Medical Inspections during the year 1966

(a) Periodic Inspections :

Number Inspected -

<u>Age Group (Year)</u>	<u>Number</u>
1962 and later	47
1961	1,730
1960	84
1959	331
1958	1,327
1957	118
1956	58
1955	754
1954	368
1953	28
1952	1,041
1951 and earlier	478
Total ...	<u>6,364</u>

(b) Other Inspections :

Number of special inspections	192
Number of re-inspections	3,911
Total ...	<u>4,103</u>

Defects found at Periodic Medical Inspections

The third table, which follows, shows the number of defects discovered under each heading. The first column indicates the number of defects referred for treatment to the family doctor or the appropriate specialist clinic. The second column shows defects discovered which need observation but not treatment at present :-

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections							
	Entrants		Leavers		Others (Interim inspections)		Total	
	Treatment	Observation	Treatment	Observation	Treatment	Observation	Treatment	Observation
Skin	16	23	104	24	64	31	184	78
Eyes:								
(a) Vision ...	66	179	144	72	195	117	405	368
(b) Squint ...	26	9	2	1	17	5	45	15
(c) Other ...	4	4	1	-	5	5	10	9
Ears:								
(a) Hearing ...	44	47	6	7	40	42	90	96
(b) Otitis Media .	23	43	6	-	8	15	37	58
(c) Other ...	6	17	7	-	6	3	19	20
Nose and Throat .	44	143	10	3	19	62	73	208
Speech	13	49	3	1	8	9	24	59
Lymphatic Glands .	4	14	-	2	1	8	5	24
Heart	1	43	1	11	2	29	4	83
Lungs	17	73	16	10	26	38	59	121
Developmental:								
(a) Hernia ...	6	8	1	-	3	3	10	11
(b) Other ...	22	73	11	35	31	119	64	227
Orthopaedic:								
(a) Posture ...	1	9	20	7	20	32	41	48
(b) Feet ...	13	53	9	4	34	31	46	88
(c) Other ...	7	28	8	6	7	9	22	43
Nervous System:								
(a) Epilepsy ...	1	2	3	1	6	1	10	4
(b) Other ...	3	6	9	2	6	14	18	22
Psychological:								
(a) Development .	1	7	-	3	3	21	4	31
(b) Stability ...	16	100	2	9	37	83	55	192
Abdomen	13	15	1	3	10	14	24	32
Other	2	12	6	15	8	19	16	46

Special Clinics

This was the first full year of operation of the special clinics from their magnificent new headquarters at the Marlowes Health Centre. The move from the old accommodation at Churchill had taken place early in December 1965, so that at the beginning of the year, memories of the inadequacies of Churchill were already beginning to fade and the Services looked forward to the new conditions with confidence.

Dental Clinics : The effect of the move was immediate upon the Dental Service, and sessions were increased to 23 a week. In place of one inadequate surgery the Dental Service felt the benefit of three fully equipped surgeries, a recovery room, an x-ray dark room and a waiting room. Two orthodontic sessions are also held weekly at the Marlowes Health Centre in the new dental suite.

The Bennetts End Clinic held 9 sessions weekly and the clinic at the Health Centre, Berkhamsted held 6 sessions weekly.

With the opening of the New Health Centre at Tring, it became possible to extend the Dental Service to this area and from September one weekly session was held.

Child and Family Psychiatric Clinic : Whereas previously children and their parents had to travel to Watford to attend the Clinic there, the Child and Family Psychiatric Service began to operate from this Division as soon as the new suite in the Marlowes Health Centre became available. Comprised of a Psychiatrist's room, an observation room, Educational Psychologist's room, Psychiatric Social Worker's room, office and waiting room, the Psychiatric Suite gives full-time accommodation to the psychiatric team. The psychiatrist attends for 3 or 4 sessions per week.

Audiology Clinic : Conducted by Dr. M. V. Bickerton, Consultant Audiologist, at Hemel Hempstead. The two sound-proofed rooms now provided for this clinic enabled the number of sessions to be increased to 4 per month.

During the year 40 sessions were held at which there were 248 attendances (new cases 139; re-examinations 109).

Speech Therapy Clinic : Conducted by Miss V. Press, Speech Therapist. The sound-proofed rooms at the Marlowes Health Centre are also available for this clinic. Eight sessions per week were held at Hemel Hempstead and two sessions per week at the Health Centre, Berkhamsted.

During the year 420 sessions were held, at which there were 1,733 attendances. At the end of the year 477 children were still attending (158 under treatment and 319 under observation).

Ophthalmic Clinics : Conducted by Dr. Norman Gardener, Consultant Ophthalmologist and Dr. M. A. Kahn at Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted.

Twice weekly sessions on Thursday and Friday morning were held at Hemel Hempstead. 85 sessions were held in the year with 821 attendances. Spectacles were prescribed for 313 children.

Periodic clinics were held on Saturday mornings at Berkhamsted Health Centre. At six sessions there were 108 attendances. 27 children had spectacles prescribed.

Orthoptic Clinics : Conducted by Mrs. L. A. Brown, Miss V. J. Wilson and Mrs. A. B. Scott, County Orthoptists.

For most of the year weekly sessions were held on Tuesday (morning and afternoon) and Friday (afternoon) at Hemel Hempstead. On Friday mornings sessions were held at Berkhamsted Health Centre. During the year there were 838 attendances at 155 sessions.

Handicapped Pupils

For the year ended 31.12.66 the following handicapped pupils were:-

(a) Newly placed in special schools or boarding homes:-

Blind	-	Delicate	2
Partially Sighted ..	1	Maladjusted	10
Deaf	2	Educationally	
Physically		subnormal ...	24
Handicapped.	4	Epileptic	2
Total	45		

(b) Newly assessed as needing special educational treatment in special schools or boarding homes:-

Blind	-	Delicate	2
Partially Sighted ..	1	Maladjusted	9
Deaf	4	Educationally	
Physically		subnormal ...	26
Handicapped.	8	Epileptic	1
Total	50		

(c) Number of handicapped pupils in special schools at 31st December, 1966:-

Blind	4	Delicate	3
Partially Sighted ..	3	Maladjusted	37
Deaf	15	Educationally	
Physically		subnormal ...	123
Handicapped.	22	Epileptic	2
Total	209		

(d) Number of handicapped pupils receiving home tuition 3

HOME NURSING SERVICE

Each year sees a steady growth of the Home Nursing Service and last year the total number of visits reached 37,290, an increase of a little over 8% on the previous year. The overall staffing establishment remained unaltered, but it was possible to meet the extra demand because of the decline in domiciliary midwifery. The nurses employed in the dual capacity of district nurse/midwife, and the majority are, were able to give more time to general nursing.

Again the elderly and infirm received the most attention, and accounted for about 55% of the patients visited and 74% of the visits. Almost the whole range of medical diseases were attended and perhaps the only age group not dealt with were the pre-school and schoolchild. The calls on the night nursing service were more frequent and there is no doubt that in terminal illnesses this service has proved of immeasurable value.

Since the district nurses have become attached to the general practices, their services have not only been more frequently used, but have been used to better advantage and more economically. The closer relationship between doctor and nurses has, by better communication, allowed more patients to be treated and the number of visits to each patient to be more accurately controlled.

Discharged hospital patients constituted a sizeable proportion of the patients visited, and it is of interest that pre-diagnostic treatment for out-patients being prepared for x-ray was given on no fewer than 346 occasions.

An appreciable saving of nursing time was effected by the greater use of disposable equipment. The nurse no longer needs to spend valuable time away from the patient, preparing the sterilized dressings and equipment required for treatment. The saving of nursing time more than offsets the additional cost of the sterilized equipment.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The now familiar battle between supply and demand was again waged last year, and once more demand out-gunned supply. The situation was perhaps the happiest, a relative term, in the Borough where the number of available hours increased by almost 7,000 hours. Even here there were periods of supply difficulties particularly at holiday times, nor was it usually possible to give the amount of help desirable, especially to the aged and infirm. In Berkhamsted and Tring the number of available hours declined and at times, and in both places, only a nominal service was possible. Every method of recruitment was tried but with little success. It must be admitted that appointments as home helps are not generally favoured, and while there is an unsatisfied demand for women workers in industry, the home help service is unlikely to attract many recruits.

It must be appreciated that of the total number of paid home help hours, only just over four-fifths are actually spent on household work, the remainder being accounted for by holiday leave, sick leave and travelling time. The latter may often be considerable; for example four of the villages last year were entirely without home helps and had to be assisted by home helps from the Borough. To cut down travelling time, particularly in out-lying villages, two home helps were allowed a casual car allowance, an innovation which, if the prevailing staff difficulties continue, might with advantage be repeated.

The pattern of supply was little changed but the decrease in the number of maternity cases allowed more help to be given to the aged. In-service training among home helps was continued, the main purpose of which was to keep the staff informed of the work of the social workers in and out-side the Health and Welfare Department and at the same time to underline their own important, if perhaps lowly, place in the social work team.

SOCIAL WORK UNIT

The amalgamation of the County Health and Welfare departments allowed a much needed reorganisation of the social work services. Prior to amalgamation the division of responsibility, in broad terms, placed upon the health department responsibility for the mentally handicapped and upon the welfare department the responsibility for the physically handicapped. The division was by no means clear cut and there were instances of divided responsibility. For example, the ascertainment of the blind or partially sighted lay with the health department, but once ascertained, their care became the responsibility of the welfare department. Equally the officers of the welfare department were responsible to the County Medical Officer for their duties of duly authorized officer under the Mental Health Acts. These arrangements were not only administratively untidy, but prejudiced the full development of the social services in general.

During the year, the central reorganisation reached divisional level, and a divisional social work unit was formed. This combines all the various disciplines into one co-ordinated whole, unites all the technical officers with a common bond and creates a unit which is administratively viable. It has the divisional social worker as a leader of a team of social workers whose job it is to co-ordinate the work of his team and co-operate with all workers in the field of social service, whether employed in other departments of the County Council or in a voluntary capacity within the local community. Social work has many faces but its voices should, as far as possible, speak as one.

The eventual aim must be the creation of a common register which social workers can inspect to see whether any of their patients or clients are known to social workers in other fields or departments. Perhaps only through this measure can a completely co-ordinated social service be developed.
